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ORGANIZATION CHARTS OF THE GERMAN MINISTRIES

AND

CENTRAL AGENCIES

PART I (NON-MILITARY)

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PREPARED BY PLANNING COORDINATION, US GROUP CC
DRAWN IN THE BRANCH OF RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS, OSS
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1 FEBRUARY 1945

SECOND EDITION

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116

APPENDIX "A"

TO

ORGANIZATION CHARTS OF THE GERMAN MINISTRIES

AND

MINISTERIAL LEVEL AUTHORITIES

In accordance with General Wickersham's letter of 1 September 1944, Divisions A and B of U.S. Group CC submitted Organization Charts of the German Ministries falling within their respective spheres. The Planning and Coordination Section was then directed to review these charts, alter them where necessary, prepare supplementary charts, and submit the whole in a uniform format. When called upon to undertake this work the Planning and Coordination Section had been working for some time on its own study of the Ministries, and was therefore in a position to augment and clarify the information submitted to such an extent that many of the charts here presented represent independent studies rather than revisions. A statement of the extent and nature of the alterations in the charts submitted by Divisions A and B is given below, together with comments indicating which supplementary charts were made entirely by this office.

MINISTERIAL COUNCIL FOR THE DEFENCE OF THE REICH

The chart was taken with only minor changes from the chart entitled "German Economics and Associated Control," developed by the Economics Branch and dated May 1944. The structure of the Ministerial Council has not, however, been made subordinate to the Plenipotentiary for the Four Year Plan (Goering). It is thought that the situation is adequately represented by noting that Goering is Chairman of the Ministerial Council for the Defence of the Reich. The distinction is an academic one since Goering holds both offices, but it seems that the Ministerial Council has a wider authority: "This council has become the normal legislator for all practical purposes; its decrees have the power of law and need not be countersigned by Hitler. Its power is completely unlimited. The six members form the real War Cabinet of Germany." (Page 33, Basic German Handbook).

Although the Reichsverteidigungskommissare have duties in connection with the regional structure of the Ministry for Armaments and War Production, they are the executive agents of the Ministerial Council for the Defence of the Reich, and are so shown on the chart prepared by this office.

PROPAGANDA ORGANIZATION

A chart of Propaganda Organization submitted by the Division, no longer in our possession, was used as a point of departure for a first draft of the chart submitted here. The present chart represents a thorough reworking of this draft without reference to the original chart prepared by the Division. An attempt was made to retrieve the original chart for purposes of comparison, but it was unsuccessful. Hence no statement of likenesses and differences can be made.

REICH MINISTRY OF ECONOMICS

The principal difference between the chart drawn up by this office and the several drawn up by the Economics Branch is in arrangement rather than completeness. The Ministry of Economics has two types of organization under it, the one structural, the other functional. The structural side is made up of the semi-public organization of Trade and Industry (Organization der Gewerblichen Wirtschaft); the functional side is made up of three groups of agencies, two of which, the Reich Offices (Reichsstellen) and Steering Associations (Lenkungsbereiche) are governmental, and the other, the Reich Associations (Reichsvereinigungen), semi-public.

The structural "Organization of Trade and Industry" is the self-governing organization of all trade and industry, and to it the Ministry has delegated considerable power. But the Steering Organizations, Reich Offices, and Reich Associations are used by the Ministry to coordinate and guide the structural organization; it is thought that the method of charting used by this office shows this more clearly than a horizontal array of offices.

It is, moreover, thought that the present arrangement shows clearly the penetration of the Ministry of Economics by the Ministry of Armaments and War Production as well as the fact that the groups of functional agencies mentioned above are among the principal media through which the penetration is accomplished. The showing of this situation in the chart of the Ministry of Economics has been complemented by the inclusion of these same agencies in the chart of the Ministry for Armaments and War Production.

Some explanation of the present treatment of cartels is necessary. Cartels have been subjected to considerable regulating action in the past few years. Where Reich Associations exist the cartels have been absorbed into them; in other cases cartels have been dissolved, integrated with the Reich Groups (Reichsgruppen), or combined in new national cartels, whose functions approximate those of the Reich Groups. It is assumed that these new national cartels

(and possibly others) are subjected to certain direct controls from the Ministry. Hence a special box is provided for them.

REICH MINISTRY FOR ARMAMENTS AND WAR PRODUCTION

1. Two special deputies to Speer are added to our chart: Deputy for Metal Substitutes and Deputy for Inland Navigation for Occupied and Annexed Territories, (ASF M-356-2 T).

2. Following M-356-2 T, the top structure of the Ministry is divided into three parts: The bureaucratic sector, the self-governing sector, and corporations. The chart submitted by the Division does not give as much prominence to the corporations.

3. The Division's chart divides the departments into two groups: The bureaucratic sector and the production departments. Actually, all the departments belong to the bureaucratic sector of the Ministry. It is the intention of ASF M-356-2 T so to describe them, and it is probable that this part of the Division's chart is a misrepresentation (see p. 8-9).

4. The specific elaboration of the Building Construction Main Committee under the Building Department of the Ministry is omitted from our chart since it is assumed that this particular elaboration is a kind of case study which could be made for other departments as well. Applying it to Building alone tends to disturb the balance of the total picture.

5. Since the Armament Commissions are the key regional groups for the Ministry's control of war economy, they are indicated centrally on our chart.

6. The National Defense Commissions, since they are concerned more particularly with civil economy are placed to the side and attached, more properly we assume, directly to the Ministerial Council for the Defense of the Reich.

7. It is felt that to show the Armament Inspector as jointly under the authority of OKW and the Ministry and as functioning as chairman of the Armament Commission represents a useful addition on our chart (M-356-2 T).

REICH MINISTRY OF LABOR

The chart prepared by the Labor Section, Labor and Displaced Persons Branch, was a complete and detailed one. The principal

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changes introduced by this office were intended to bring the chart into conformity with the present set, and to bring it within prescribed space limitations. The treatment given the Organization of Social Insurance is somewhat more compact in the present chart, and the partial jurisdiction of the Ministry of Labor over the Labor Courts has been added.

REICH MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

This chart is almost entirely the product of this office. Some help was received from MEW, and several consultations were held with an EM specialist of the Food and Agriculture Section, Economics Branch.

REICH FORESTRY OFFICE

A number of major and minor changes have been made in the chart submitted by the Division as well as a number of additions.

1. The most important change is based upon a different interpretation of Göring as Reichsjägermeister. In the Division's chart, Göring as Reichsjägermeister is placed in the Reichsjagdamt (which in our chart is considered merely a department of the Ministry). In our chart the Forstmeister and Jägermeister jointly occupy the central ministerial box. The justification for this change is as follows:

a. According to Taschenbuch für Verwaltungsbeamte '43, Göring in his two capacities operates through the same offices.

b. It also states that "in matters related to hunting" Göring bears the title of Reichsjägermeister without specifying certain ministerial departments as exclusively his vehicles in this role.

c. The Jagdamt is not headed by Göring (as shown on the Division's chart) but by Scherping. All this suggests rather strongly that, at the ministerial level, at least, these two titles of Göring are simply aspects of the same office and operate through the same departments.

2. Office of the Permanent Deputy, Assistant for Personnel, Adjutant, and Chief of Ministerial Administration have been omitted from our chart in the interest of uniformity. Most of the charts submitted by the Divisions do not show as separate boxes the offices of the various administrative aids to the minister unless certain departments or agencies are directly attached to them. Our omission, however, of the Permanent Deputy may be considered more or less arbitrary.

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3. The departments of the Ministry on our chart were taken from Taschenbuch. They differ from the Division's departments.

4. Reichsstelle für Naturschutz is shown in Taschenbuch as under the Geschäftsbereich of the Reichsforstverwaltung and hence was attached to the main stem of the Ministry.

5. An Association Forestry has been added (ASF M-356-2 T, p. 91).

6. A Reich Trustee for Timber Transport, mentioned in ASF Manual 356-2 T as under the Forstmeister, has been added.

7. Geschäftsbereichs of the Ministry have been added in three groups as indicated in Taschenbuch.

8. The regional organization has been corrected and, it is hoped, clarified to some extent.

9. Business Group "Forestry" under the Four Year Plan is shown with a control line to the Ministry.

REICH MINISTRY OF FINANCE

The changes made in the chart prepared by the Financial Branch were minor ones:

1. The control lines in the submitted chart make it appear that, while Prussian Provinces are divided into Regierungsbezirke, none of the Länder is so divided. The fact is that certain of the Länder (for example, Bayern) are divided into Regierungsbezirke, and an additional line has been added to show this.

2. In the chart of the Financial Branch the line of control to the Hauptzollämter comes out of the Personnel and Administration Department of the Oberfinanzpräsident, and the line of control to the Finanzämter out of the Head Cash Office of the Oberfinanzpräsident. The line of control has been redrawn in the present chart to show that many of the Departments of the Oberfinanzpräsident (for example, the Customs, Duties and Consumption Taxes Department) participate in the supervision of the Finanzämter and the Hauptzollämter.

REICHSBANK DIRECTORATE

The only changes introduced in the chart prepared by the Financial Branch were those necessary to make the charting conventions uniform with this series.

SUPREME AUDITING OFFICE OF THE REICH (RECHUNGSHOF)

The only changes introduced in the chart prepared by the Financial Branch were those necessary to make the charting conventions uniform with this series.

REICH MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

Much of the material submitted by the Legal Branch was presented in a tabular rather than a chart form. The adaptation of this material to chart form is the most important change made. The hierarchical ordering of the Courts has also been added, although no attempt has been made to show every possible appeal channel. The Supreme Hereditary Farm Court, under the control of the Ministry of Food and Agriculture, has also been added, since it is the appeal court for the Hereditary Farm Courts, which fall under the Ministry of Justice.

REICH MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT

The chart prepared by this section differs considerably from that submitted by the Transportation Branch. While the latter presents only the Departmental structure, the present chart deals also with the regional level, many subsidiary and advisory bodies, and several high level authorities, such as the Inspector General of Roads, the Reich Commissioner for Ocean Shipping, and transport authorities under the Four Year Plan, that have usurped or permeated some of the Ministry's functions.

REICH MINISTRY OF POSTS

1. In the interest of uniformity the advisers to the Minister and State Secretary have been omitted; a separate box for the Ministerial Office has been omitted.

2. The two printing offices and the Charitable Institute have been dropped to a less conspicuous position on the chart, as would seem more consistent with their importance. It is true that these offices are introduced in Taschenbuch with the phrase, "dem Reichspostminister unterstellt," but in the absence of an emphatic "unmittelbar" no special significance is attached to this designation.

3. In view of the write-up of the Reichspostzentramt given in the German Country Unit's Handbook for Military Government for

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Germany, this office has been raised to the level of the departments and given a special line of attachment to the central line of authority from the Minister.

4. Two Postal Commissioners, for Ostland and Ukraine, have been added (ASF M 356-2, Page 163).

5. A line of influence (to Department VII) from the Air Ministry has been added.

6. Regional Postal Directorates have not been enumerated.

FOREIGN OFFICE

This chart is substantially the same as that submitted by the Political Branch. Three offices in the Geschäftsbereich of the Ministry have been added, and the partial supervision of one of them, the Reich Office for Foreign Trade, by the Ministry of Economics, has been indicated in the present chart. There has also been a change made in the number of departments. The sources used by this office disclosed the existence of a department not shown in the chart submitted by the Political Branch. In place of News and Press Department and the Information Department, the Political Branch gives only one Department, called Information and Press. After consultation, the Political Branch concurs in our treatment.

REICH MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR

No over-all chart of the Ministry was submitted by Division B, but the material submitted on Public Health was found very useful and has been incorporated in the two charts that deal with the Ministry of the Interior.

REICH MINISTRY OF ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS

This chart was made by this section after consultation with the Division.

REICH MINISTRY FOR SCIENCE, EDUCATION AND POPULAR CULTURE

No corrections but a number of additions have been made to the chart submitted by the Division:

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1. In many cases the functions of departments and sub-departments have been elaborated.
2. A number of Party controls have been indicated.
3. A regional structure for the Office of Education has been added (Basic Handbook - (PID)).
4. An abbreviated version of the Geschäftsbereich (sphere of influence) of the Ministry has been added (Taschenbuch).

REICH OFFICE FOR SPATIAL PLANNING

This chart is the product of this office. The information available on the Reich Office for Spatial Planning is not very complete. Another chart will be prepared to take the place of the present one as soon as more information is available.

REICH AIR MINISTRY

This chart is entirely the product of this office.



GER-ADMIN

MFA & A Reich Ministries

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1608

US GROUP CC
APO 742

SECRET
AUTH: A/Deputy, US Gp CC
INIT: *[initials]*
DATE: 28 February 1945

28 February 1945

PLANNING DIRECTIVE NO. 17.

SUBJECT: Organization Charts of the German Ministries and Central Agencies (Part I).

TO : Directors, All Divisions.

1. There is attached hereto for your information and guidance in planning, a copy of the above named publication, which represents the latest information available concerning the structure of the German Ministries and central agencies. This publication represents a complete revision of the previous provisional publication "Organization Charts of the German Ministries and Ministerial Level Authorities", which it supersedes.

2. Part II of this publication, comprising the Service Ministries, will be issued later.

3. While it is not at present planned to issue another edition of these charts, memoranda and bulletins will be issued to the Divisions from time to time, notifying them of changes, corrections, and additions as appropriate. In this connection, it is requested that Planning Coordination Section, US Group CC, be notified of any errors appearing in the present edition and of any later pertinent information pertaining to the structure of the Ministries and agencies concerned.

For the Acting Deputy:

[Signature]
JAMES L. WILLIAMS
Lt Col, AGD
Adjutant General

Incl.
As stated.

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LEGEND FOR CHARTS

Black Lines: All the Ministries as they now exist (excluding the Ministry of Armaments and War Production); the central organizations of the several military High Commands. ★

Red Lines: Controlling authorities and Party agencies extraneous to the Ministries (including as "extraneous" the war-time Ministry of Armaments and War Production).

===== Lines of Direct Control (except where otherwise labeled).

----- Lines of Indirect Control, Collaboration, or Liaison (except where otherwise labeled).

★ By "Ministries" is here meant all Reich Ministries, the Reichsbank, the Supreme Auditing Office of the Reich, the Reich Office for Spatial Planning, and the Reich Forestry Office.

INTRODUCTION

This is the second edition, in two parts, of "Organization Charts of the German Ministries and Central Agencies" (Entitled in the first edition: "Organization Charts of the German Ministries and Ministerial Level Authorities.") The charts have been considerably revised and expanded by Planning Coordination Section in cooperation with the various Divisions of U. S. Group CC and with the aid of agencies mentioned under "Sources." The scope of Part I (Non-Military) is essentially the same as that of the first edition. Two charts have been added: the Office of the Four Year Plan and Central Reich Authorities (which replaces the independent chart of the Ministerial Council for the Defense of the Reich). The Reich Air Ministry appears in Part II (Military) which covers OKW, OKH, OKM and the Air Ministry (including OKL).

Several considerations should be kept in mind in making use of these charts:

1. The German ministries are changing structures. In at least one case, the Ministry for Armaments and War Production, changes occurring late in 1944 have not been represented (except by note), partly because data on them are inadequate and partly because it is assumed that a number of such recent alterations in this and other ministries are improvisations under stress and do not clearly reflect the structure and function of government during its period of effective operation.
2. Since each ministry, except Interior, has been limited to one page, it has not always been possible to include all sub-offices and all affiliated agencies.
3. Although every effort has been made to show regional structure down to Gau and Bezirk level, offices lower than these have, in some cases, been omitted.
4. Major control channels from the various Reich-level Commissioners, Commissioner-Generals, and Inspector-Generals to the ministries and parts of ministries have been shown on the appropriate ministerial charts, but it is probable that the ramifications of their power have not been fully presented.
5. Not included in these charts are the Protectors, Governors, and Commissioners for the administration of occupied territory, and the Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Territories.

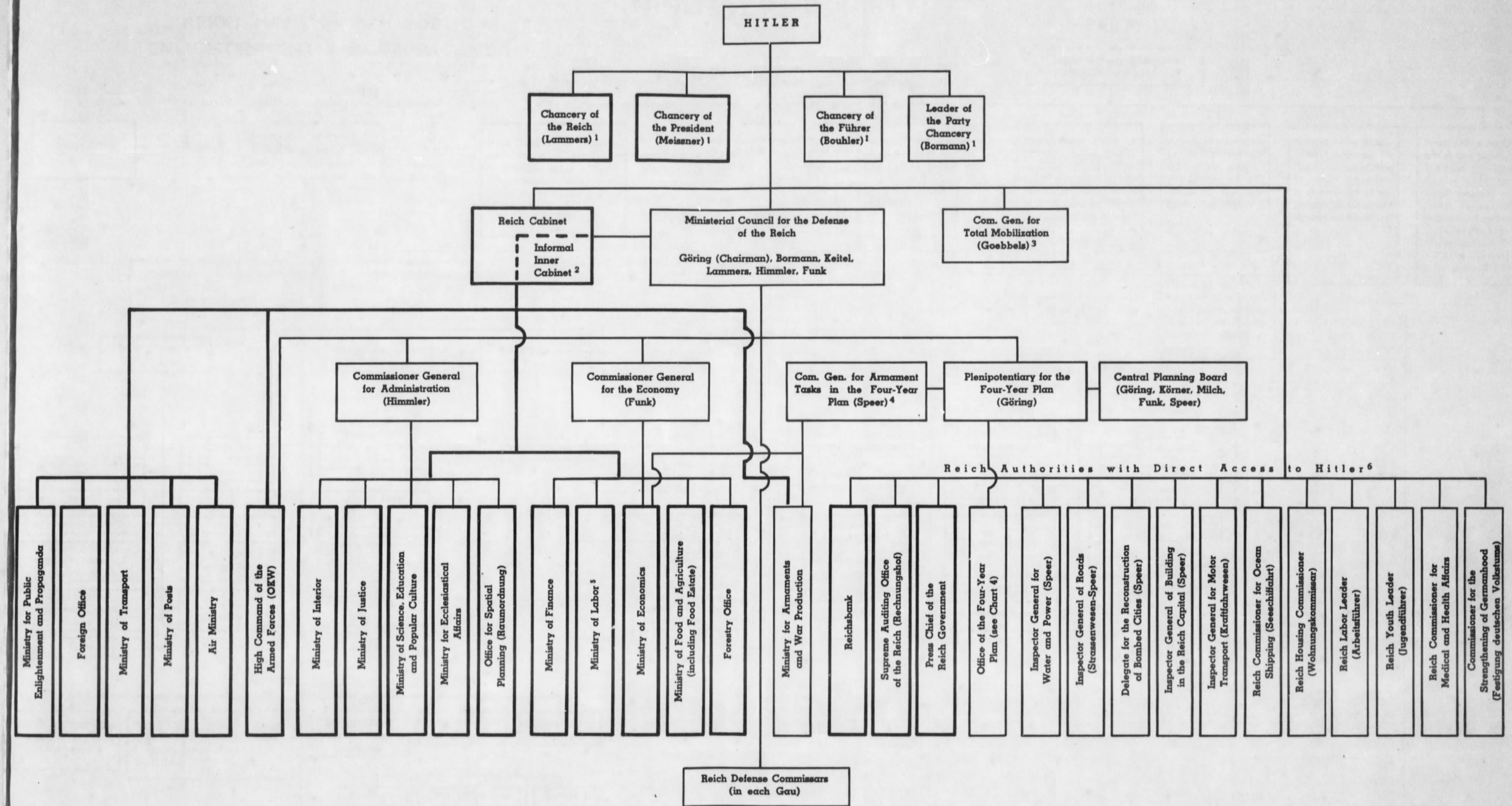
It was considered useful to make a rough distinction between the Ministries as they now exist (including the Ministries of Propaganda and Ecclesiastical Affairs) and the controlling authorities and Party agencies extraneous to these ministries (including as "extraneous" the war-time Ministry for Armaments and War Production). The former have been represented in black; the latter in red. Although all structures in red represent either war-time expedients or Party agencies and are, for the most part, destined for abolition, it does not follow that all structures in black are to be retained.

SOURCES

1. Organization charts of a number of the German ministries, prepared by Divisions of US Group CC.
2. Taschenbuch für Verwaltungsbeamte—1943.
3. German Basic Handbook (P.I.D.)
4. Civil Affairs Guides (War Dept. Pamphlets published 22 July 1944, Series 31).
5. Civil Affairs Handbooks (Army Service Forces Manuals published on various dates in 1944, Series M-356).
6. Handbook of Military Government for Germany (prepared by the German Country Unit).
7. Reichsgesetzblatt.
8. Die Organisation der deutschen Ernährungswirtschaft—Dr. F. Müllenbusch (Reichsnährstand - Verlagsge-
sellschaft m.b.H., Berlin, 1941).
9. Various studies and reports by American Embassy (EWD), FEA, OSS, G-2 AEF, MEW, MIRS, CSDIC, MIS.
10. Conferences with representatives of U. S. Strategic Bombing Survey (Economic Control Section, Eco-
nomics Div.), American Embassy (EWD), MEW, MIRS, and MIS.

Note: Sources for Part II (Military) are not included;
they will be found on each of the charts in question.

CENTRAL REICH AUTHORITIES



NOTES:

¹ Functions of Chanceries:

- Chancery of Reich — submits to Hitler legislative proposals planned by various Ministries; adjusts differences among Ministries and ministerial authorities before proposed measures become law.
- Chancery of President — deals with functions of Hitler as head of Reich, in field of diplomatic affairs, and in ceremonies in relation to foreign states; participates in appointment and dismissal of high government officials at home and abroad.
- Chancery of the Führer of NS Party — acts as link between Hitler and the people; receives and forwards petitions, especially requests for favors and pardons.

- Party Chancery — responsible for relations between Party and Reich government, and for the practical application of Nazi doctrines to public affairs; presents suggestions for legislative enactments which emanate from Party; promotes influence of Party in local government.

² Informal inner cabinet is said to be composed of:

- Himmler as Commissioner General for Administration.
- Lammers as Leader of the Party Chancellery.
- Keitel as Chief of the High Command of the Armed Forces.
- Göring as Plenipotentiary for the Four-Year Plan.
- Speer as Minister of Armaments and War Production.
- Goebbels as Commissioner General for Total Mobilization.

³ Commissioner General for Total Mobilization (Goebbels): appointed July 1944 to investigate the entire economy, including the railway and postal services and all public institutions, organizations and enterprises and to order changes which will release the maximum of manpower for service in the armed forces and for the production of armaments.

⁴ For charting convenience this office is here shown outside the Office of the Four-Year Plan (see Chart 4).

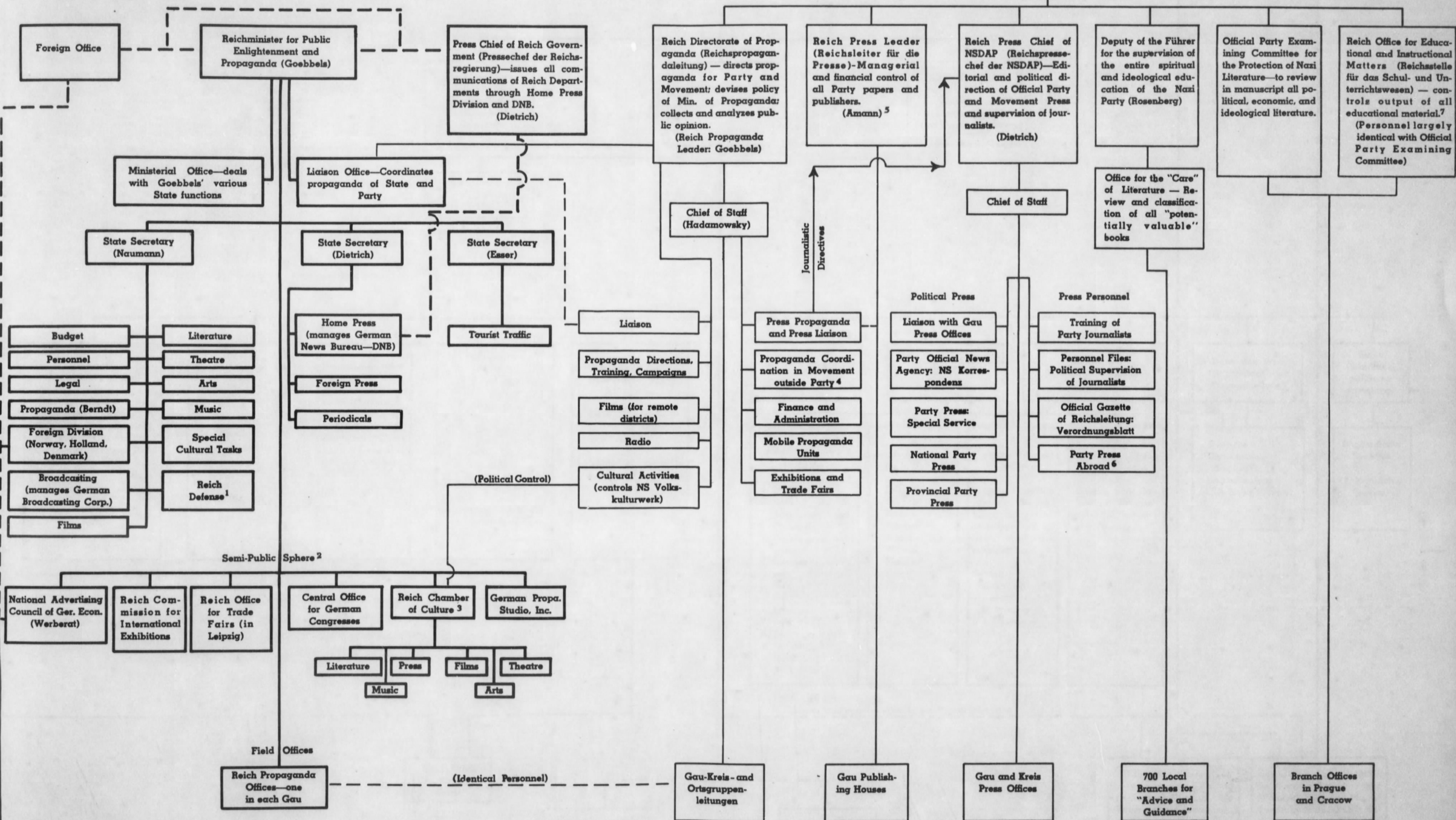
⁵ Many important functions of the Labor Ministry have been taken over by Sauckel (Commissioner General for the Allocation of Labor in the Office of the Four-Year Plan), and by Ley (Reich Housing Commissioner).

⁶ Eleven officials for the administration of occupied territory fall in this category but do not appear on the chart.

PROPAGANDA ORGANIZATION (MINISTRY AND PARTY)

REICH MINISTRY FOR PUBLIC ENLIGHTENMENT AND PROPAGANDA

PARTY



NOTES:

¹ Possibly identical with the "Information and Security Office" which is responsible for the security of the Ministry and also concerned with gathering secret information on all leading personalities in the Reich and abroad.

² Because of space limitations only a few of the organizations in this sphere can be indicated.

³ Partly under supervision of Ministry of Economics.

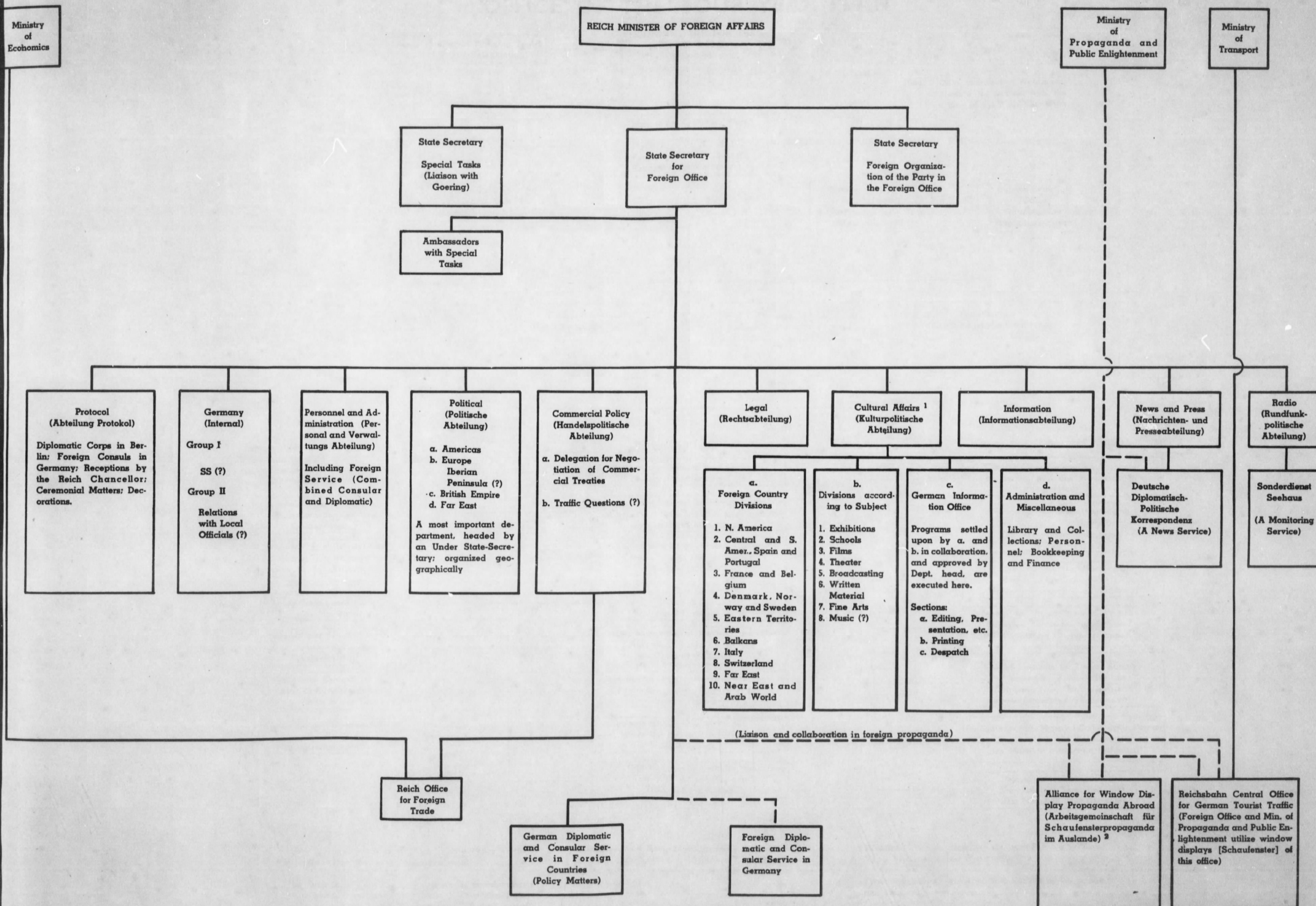
⁴ Consists of a "Reichsring": contains delegates from propaganda sections of all branches of the movement outside the Party proper (German Labor Front, Hitler Youth, etc.); also representatives of other departments of the Supreme Party Directorate (Reichsleitung).

⁵ Personally controls Eher Verlag and its numerous subsidiaries.

⁶ Head of this section always identical with head of Foreign Press Division of Propaganda Ministry.

⁷ Contains representatives of other interested departments of the State and of the Party—Hitler Youth, NS Teachers' Association, Main Education Office (Hauptschulungsamt), Department of the Führer for the supervision of the Entire Spiritual and Ideological Education of the Nazi Party.

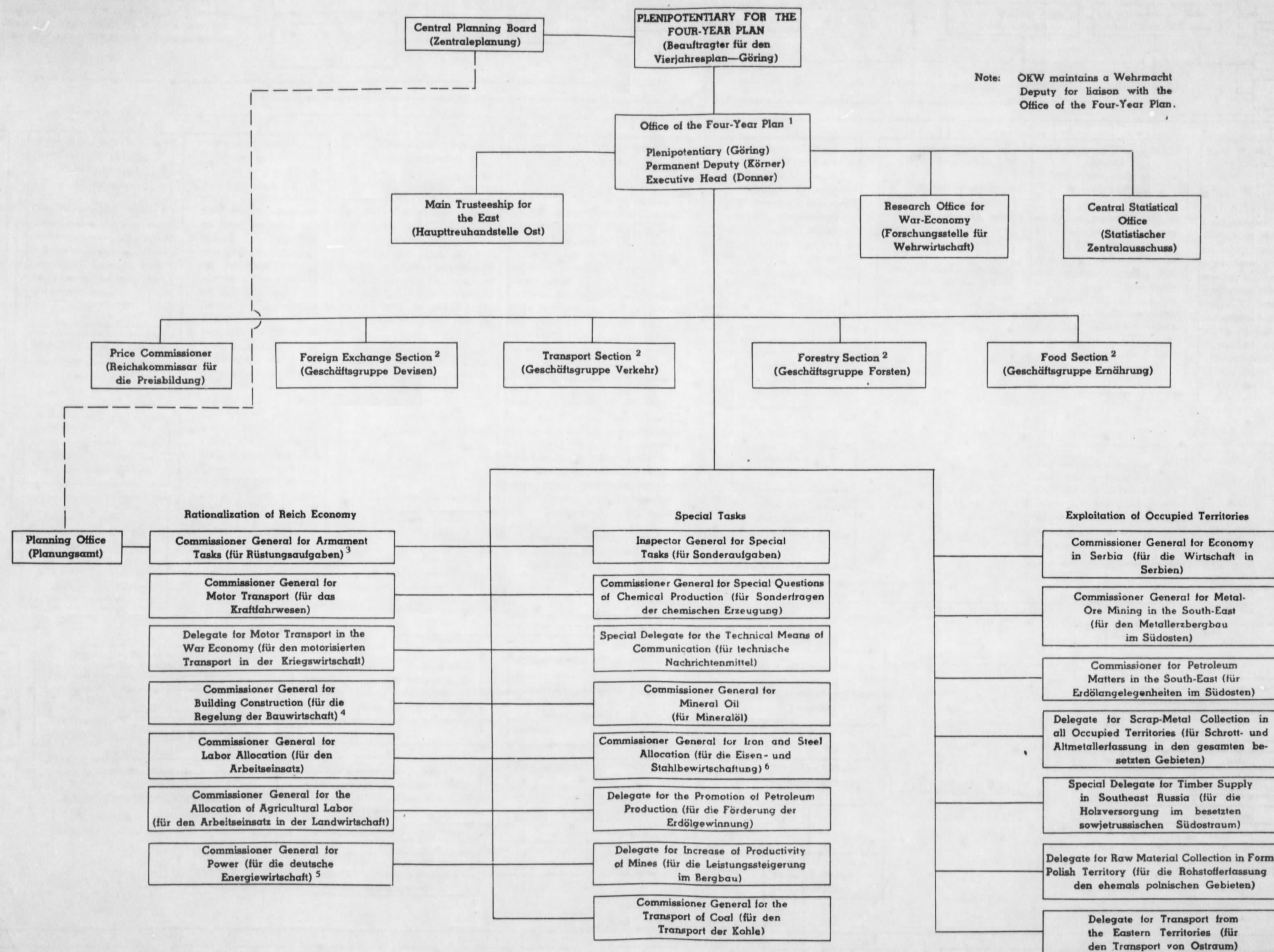
FOREIGN OFFICE



NOTES: 1 The amount of space devoted to this Department does not necessarily reflect its importance relative to the other Departments; more information is available on it than on the others.

2 This agency is financed by the Ministry of Propaganda and Public Enlightenment; its governing body is made up of representatives from: Min. of Propaganda and Public Enlightenment, Foreign Office, Reichsbahn Central Office for Tourist Traffic, OKW, Foreign Organization of NSDAP, Reich Committee for Public Education in Efficiency Methods.

PLENIPOTENTIARY FOR THE FOUR YEAR PLAN AND OFFICE OF THE FOUR YEAR PLAN



NOTES:

1 There is some evidence that the entire Office of the Four-Year Plan is in process of dissolution.

2 The function of these Sections is primarily coordination. Their heads are top civil servants in other capacities (e. g., head of Geschäftsgruppe Ernährung is Backe, also Minister of Food and Agriculture).

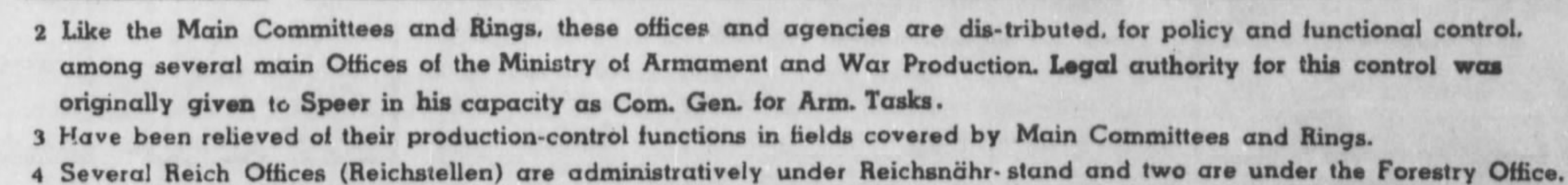
3 Authority given Speer in this capacity now used by him to control certain offices of Ministry of Economics through his Ministry of Armaments and War Production (see Charts 5 and 6).

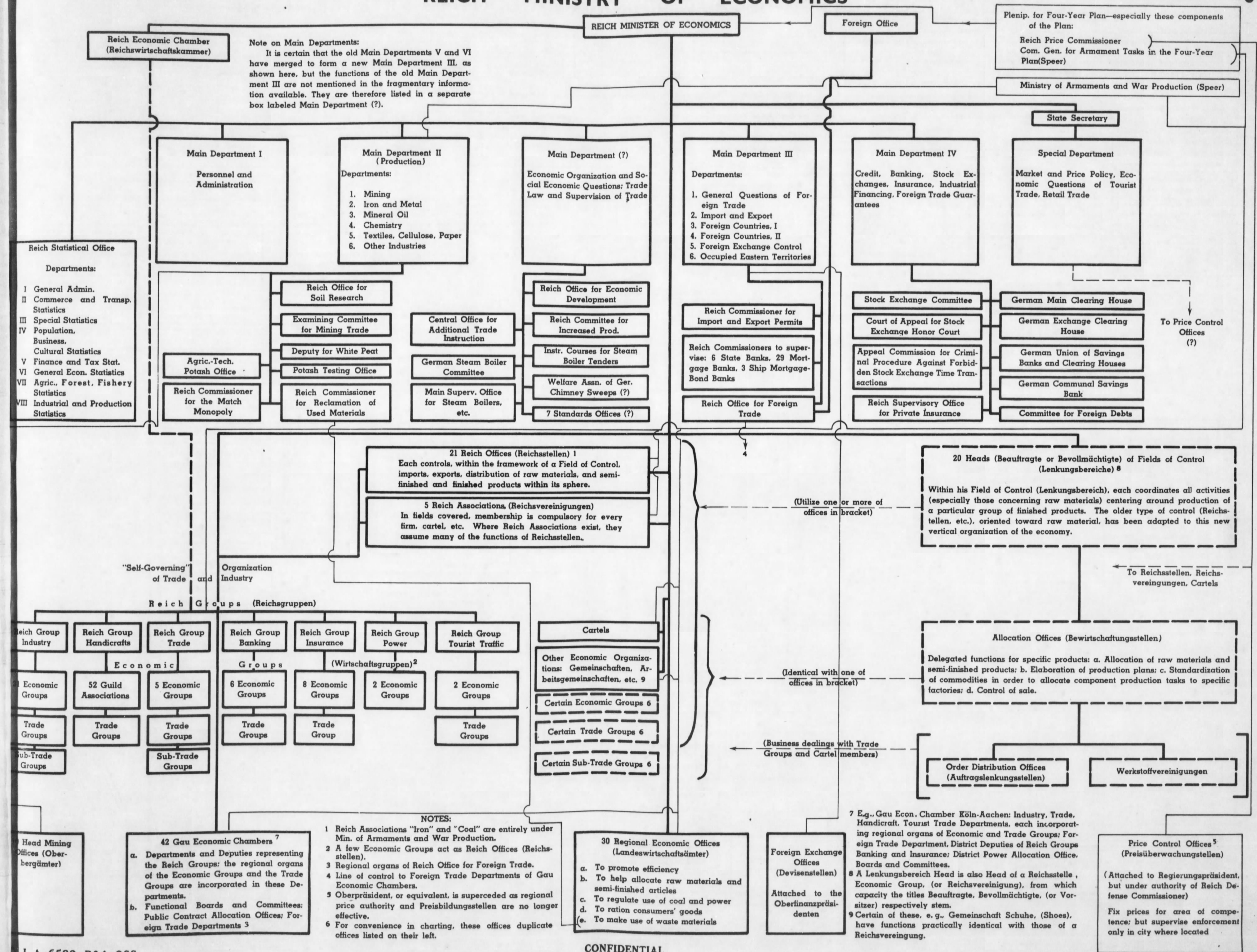
4 Speer, in this capacity has delegated most of his functions to Amt Bau/OT of Ministry of Armaments and War Production.

5 Functions possibly absorbed by Amt Energie in Ministry of Armaments and War Production.

6 Functions possibly absorbed into Ministry of Armaments and War Production.

(as of May 1944)

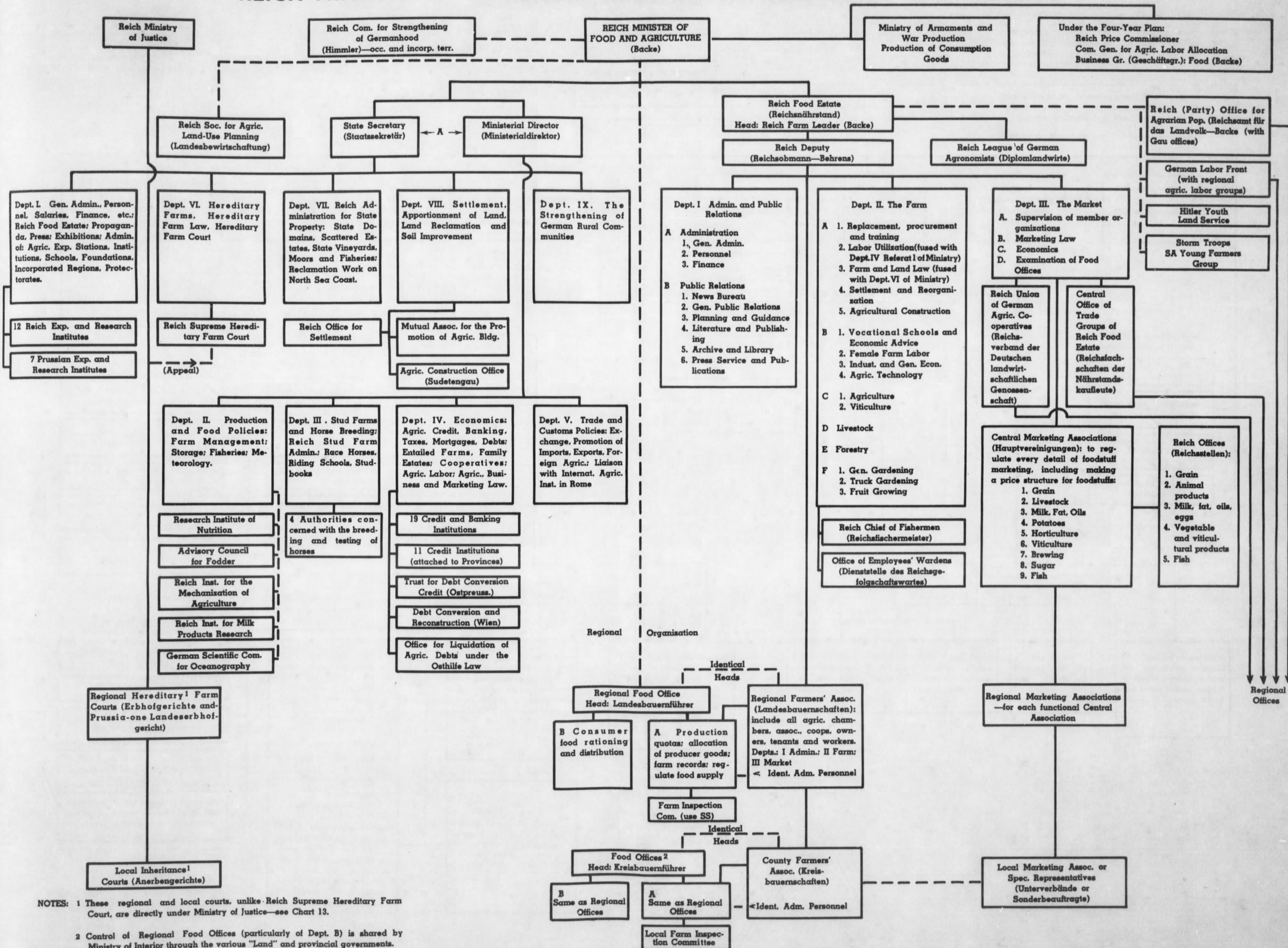




REICH MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE AND REICH FOOD ESTATE

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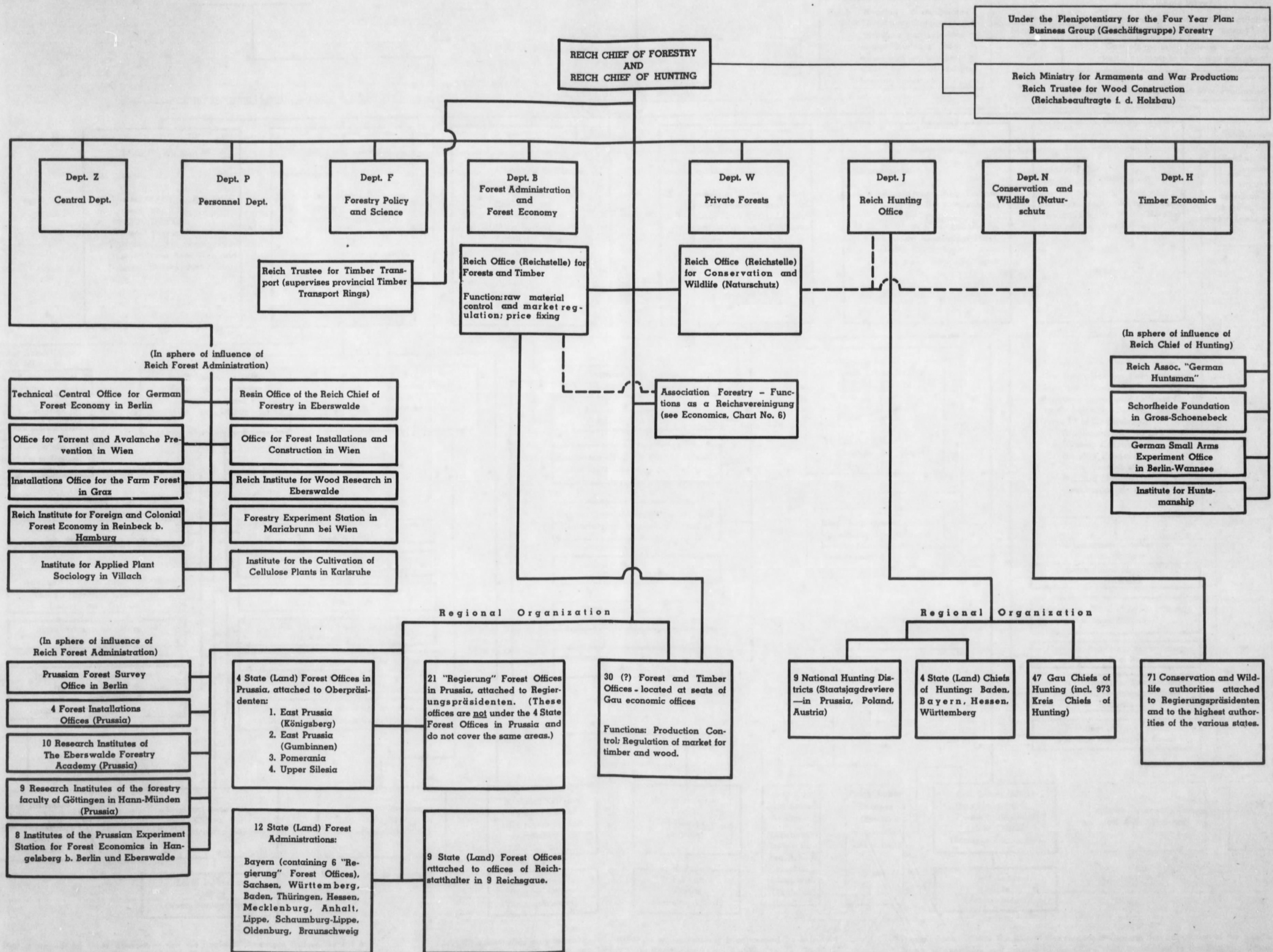


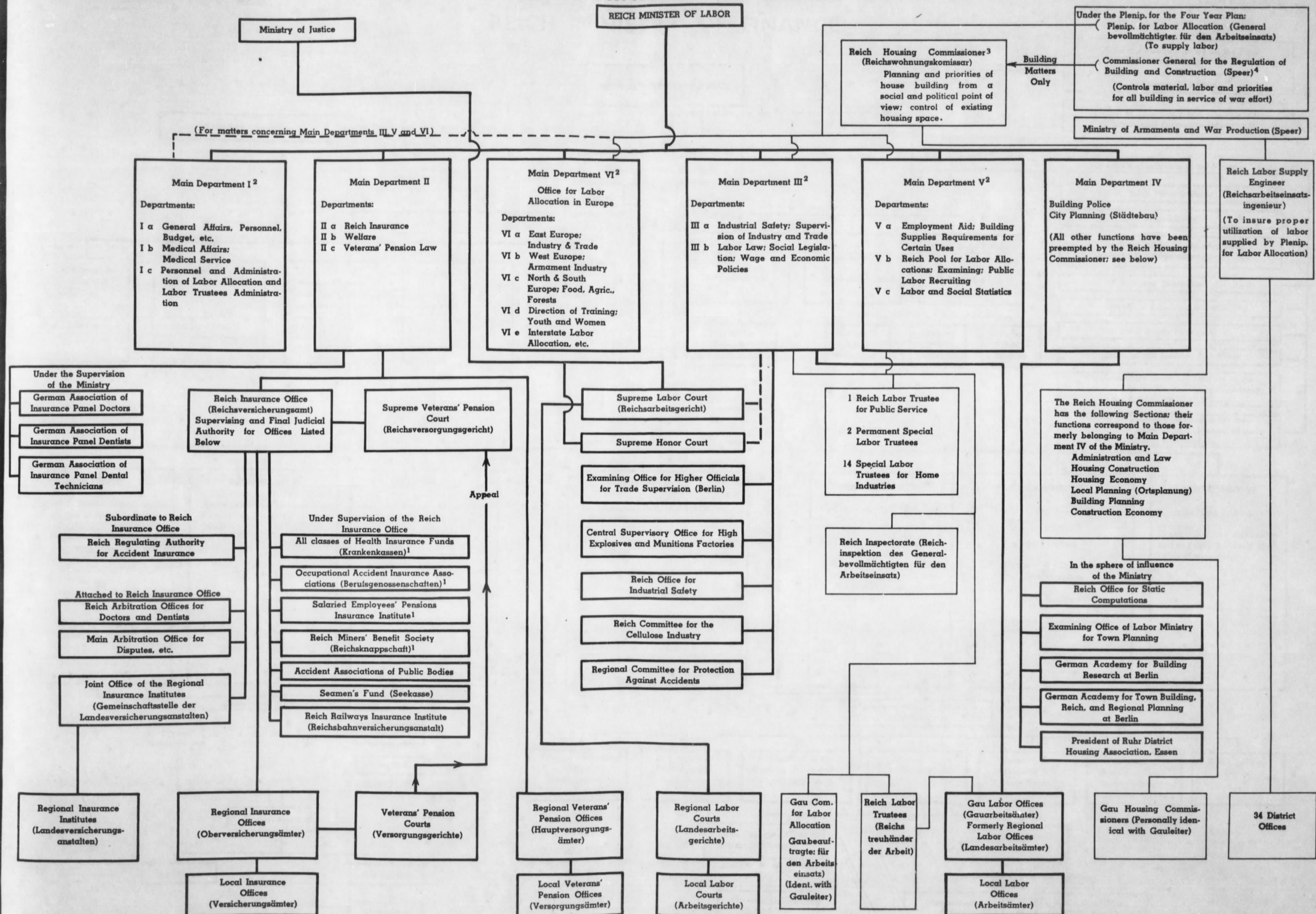
NOTES: 1 These regional and local courts, unlike Reich Supreme Hereditary Farm Court, are directly under Ministry of Justice—see Chart 13.

2 Control of Regional Food Offices (particularly of Dept. B) is shared by Ministry of Interior through the various "Land" and provincial governments.

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REICH FORESTRY OFFICE





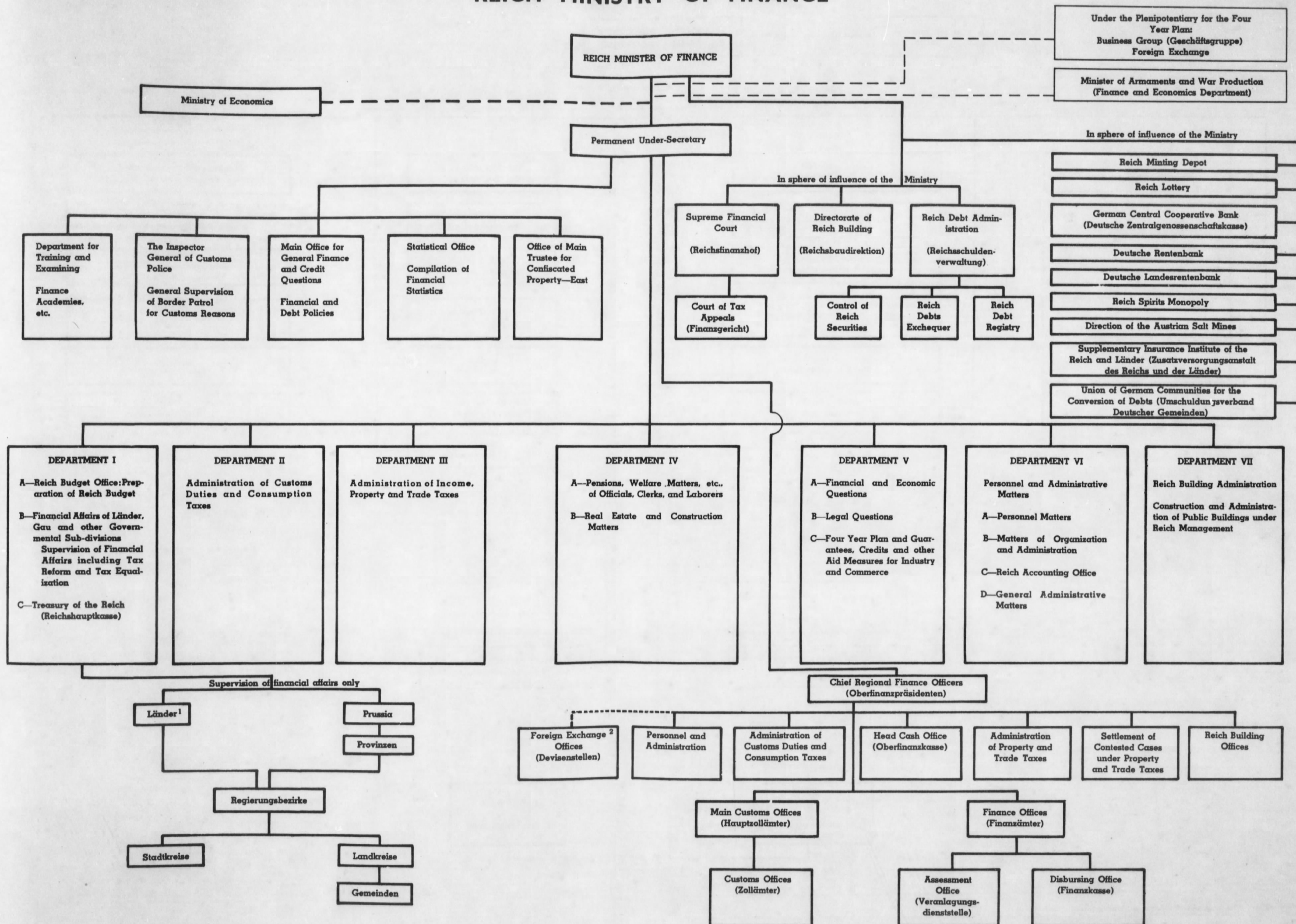
¹Courts of First Appeal for these authorities are the Regional Insurance Offices, except in the case of the Health Insurance Funds for which First Appeal is made to the Local Insurance Offices; final Judicial Authority is the Reich Insurance Office.

³Legally answerable only to Hitler, but insofar as actual building is concerned, he is in fact under the control of Commissioner General for Regulation of the Building Trade. Only remaining independent activity is control of existing building space. Part IV, German Basic Handbook (PID).

⁴Though Speer retains the title of Commissioner General for Regulation of the Building Trade, all functions and powers of the Office were transferred to the Building Office in the Min. of Armaments and War Production under the leadership of a Special Commissioner. Only decrees of fundamental importance are still signed by Speer as the Commissioner General for Reg. of the Building Trade. Part IV, German Basic Handbook (PID).

²Plenip. for Labor Allocation has Delegates in Main Departments I, III, V and VI.

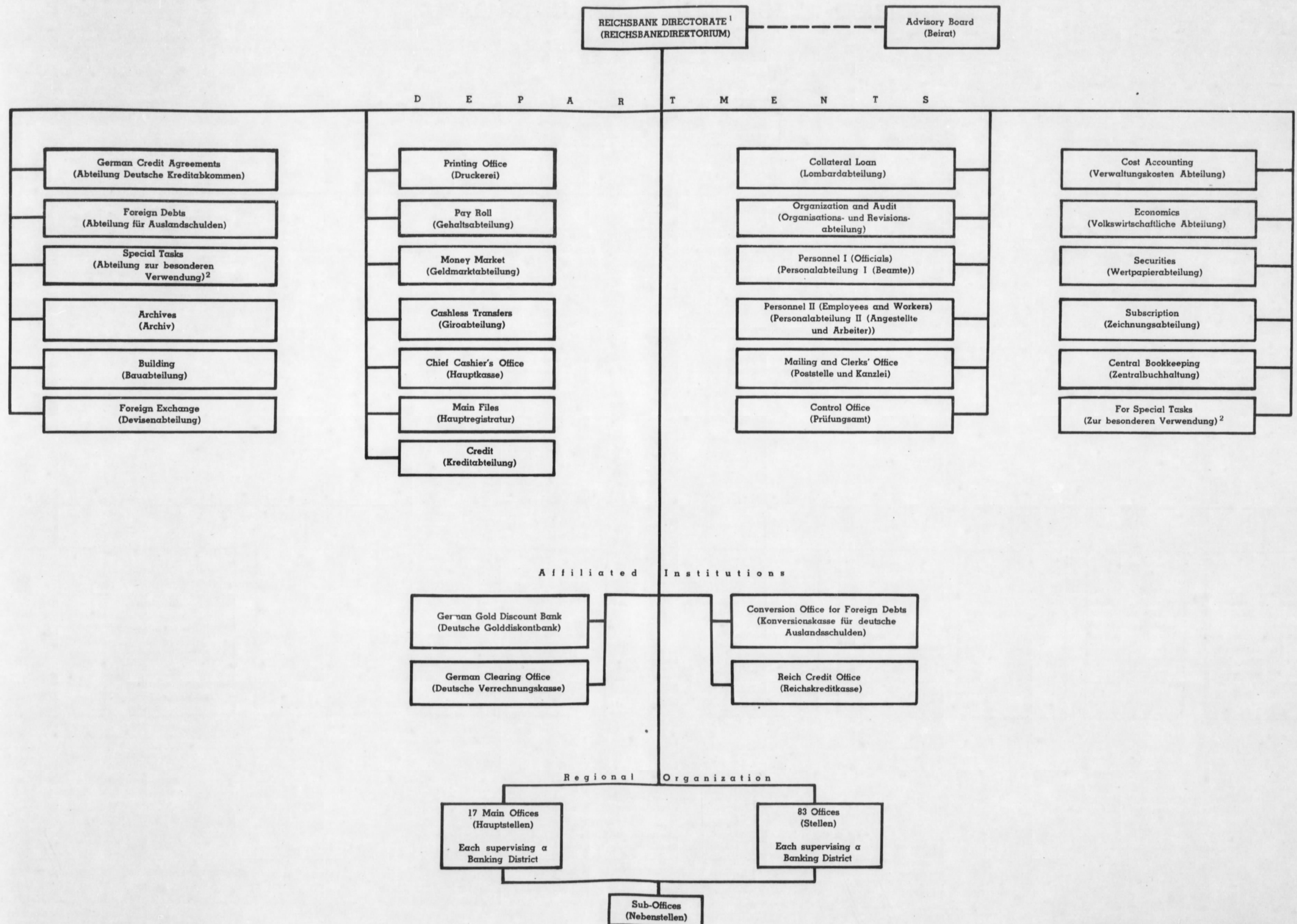
REICH MINISTRY OF FINANCE



¹ Certain of the Länder are not subdivided into Regierungsbezirke.

² The Foreign Exchange Offices belong to the sphere of influence (Geschäftsbereich) of the Ministry of Economics, but are attached to the Chief Regional Finance Officers (Oberfinanzpräsidenten).

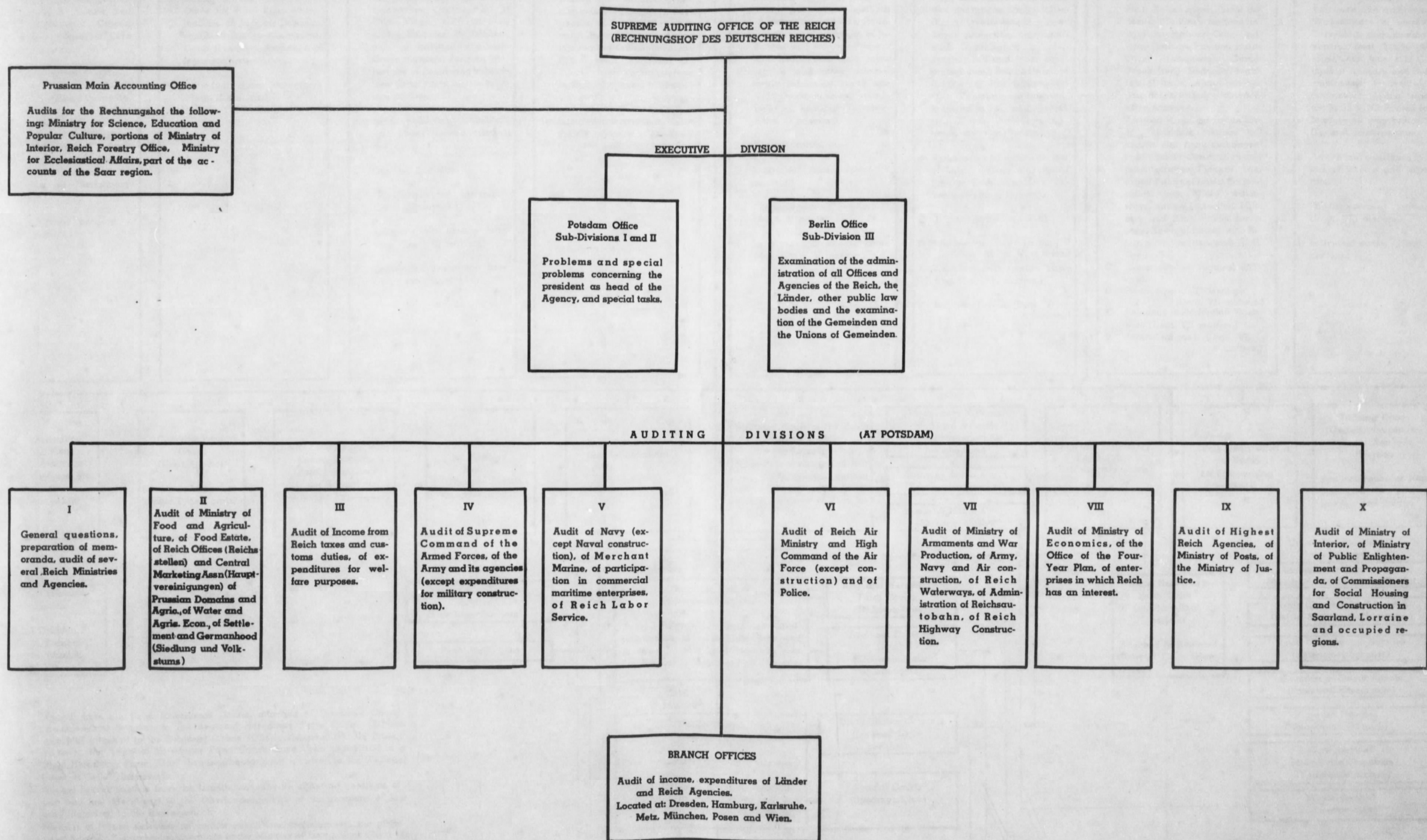
DEUTSCHE REICHSBANK



¹ Reichsbankpräsident is personally identical with Reichswirtschaftsminister (Funk).

² Duplication here is intentional: there are two departments for Special Tasks.

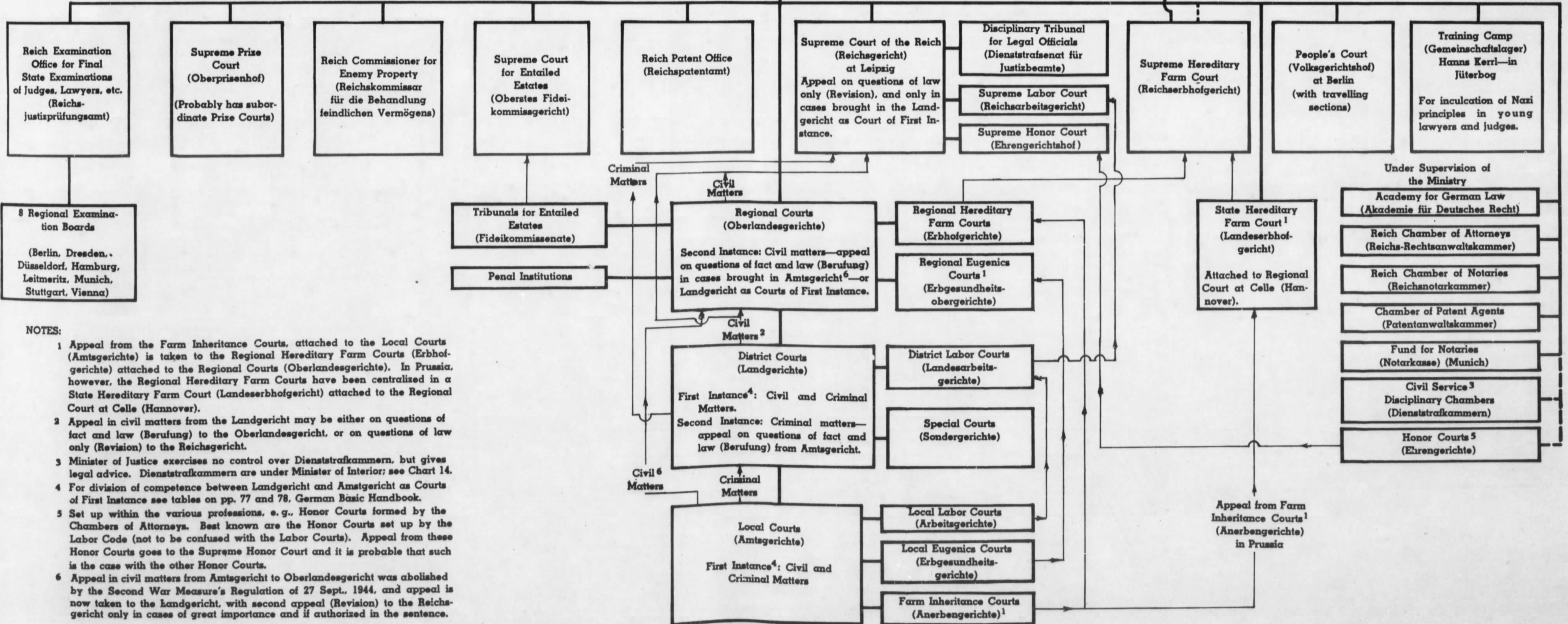
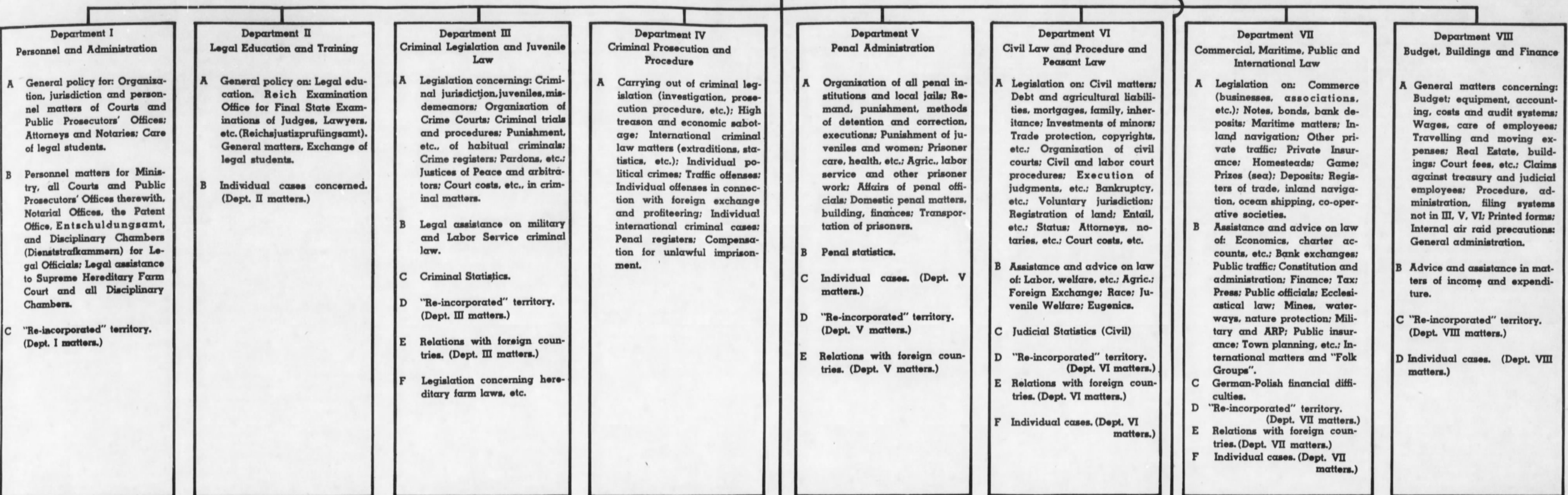
SUPREME AUDITING OFFICE OF THE REICH



Line of appeal: →

REICH MINISTER OF JUSTICE

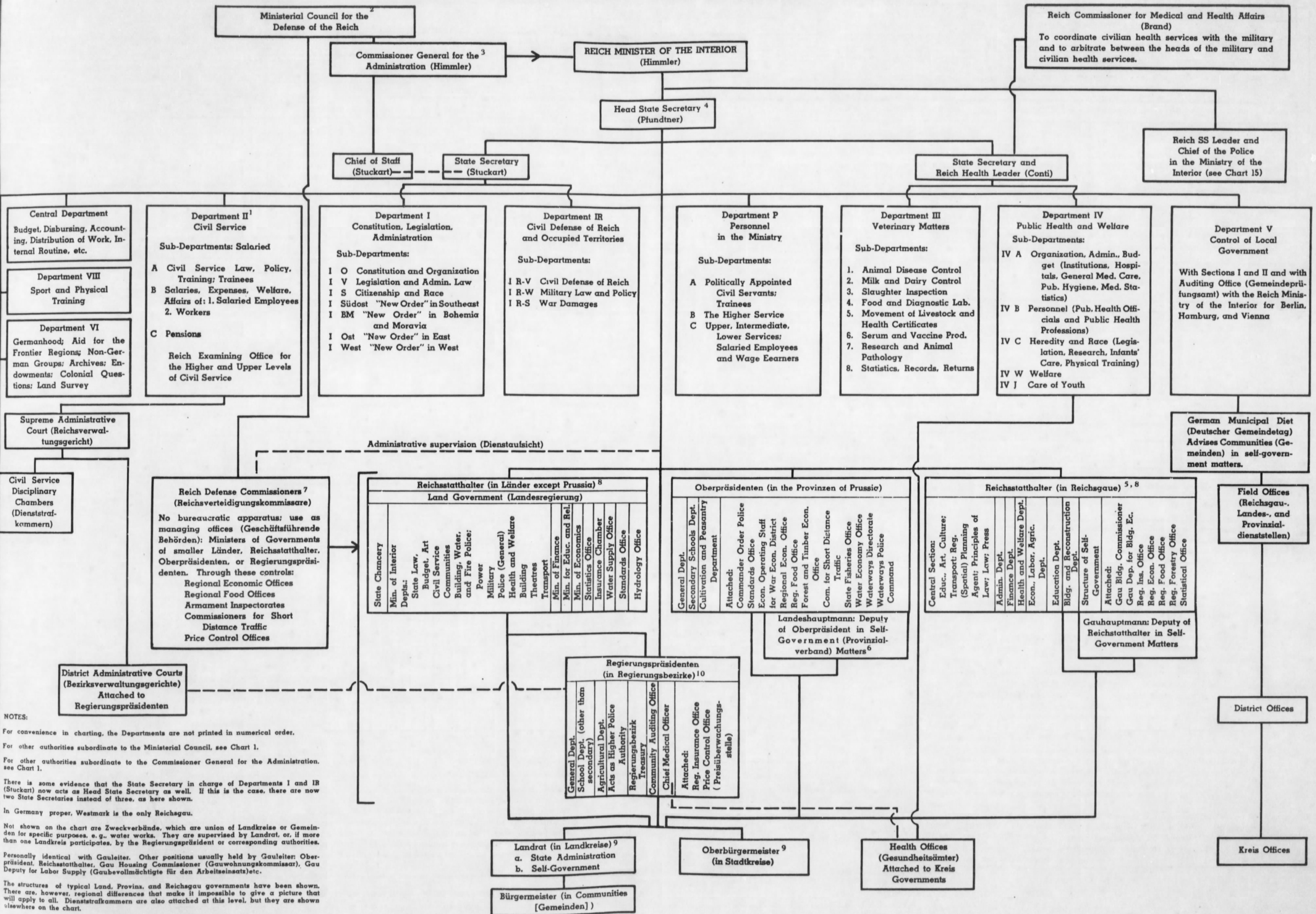
Ministry of Food and Agriculture



NOTES:

- 1 Appeal from the Farm Inheritance Courts, attached to the Local Courts (Amtsgerichte) is taken to the Regional Hereditary Farm Courts (Erbbhofgerichte) attached to the Regional Courts (Oberlandesgerichte). In Prussia, however, the Regional Hereditary Farm Courts have been centralized in a State Hereditary Farm Court (Landeserbhofgericht) attached to the Regional Court at Celle (Hannover).
- 2 Appeal in civil matters from the Landgericht may be either on questions of fact and law (Berufung) to the Oberlandesgericht, or on questions of law only (Revision) to the Reichsgericht.
- 3 Minister of Justice exercises no control over Dienststrafkammern, but gives legal advice. Dienststrafkammern are under Minister of Interior; see Chart 14.
- 4 For division of competence between Landgericht and Amtsgericht as Courts of First Instance see tables on pp. 77 and 78, German Basic Handbook.
- 5 Set up within the various professions, e.g., Honor Courts formed by the Chambers of Attorneys. Best known are the Honor Courts set up by the Labor Code (not to be confused with the Labor Courts). Appeal from these Honor Courts goes to the Supreme Honor Court and it is probable that such is the case with the other Honor Courts.
- 6 Appeal in civil matters from Amtsgericht to Oberlandesgericht was abolished by the Second War Measure's Regulation of 27 Sept., 1944, and appeal is now taken to the Landgericht, with second appeal (Revision) to the Reichsgericht only in cases of great importance and if authorized in the sentence.

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NOTES:

For convenience in charting, the Departments are not printed in numerical order.

For other authorities subordinate to the Ministerial Council, see Chart 1.

For other authorities subordinate to the Commissioner General for the Administration, see Chart 1.

There is some evidence that the State Secretary in charge of Departments I and IR (Stuckart) now acts as Head State Secretary as well. If this is the case, there are now two State Secretaries instead of three, as here shown.

In Germany proper, Westmark is the only Reichsgau.

Not shown on the chart are Zweckverbände, which are union of Landkreise or Gemeinden for specific purposes, e.g., water works. They are supervised by Landrat, or, if more than one Landkreis participates, by the Regierungspräsident or corresponding authorities.

Personally identical with Gauleiter. Other positions usually held by Gauleiter: Oberpräsident, Reichsstatthalter, Gau Housing Commissioner (Gauwohnungskommissar), Gau Deputy for Labor Supply (Gaubevollmächtigte für den Arbeitseinsatz) etc.

The structures of typical Land, Provinz, and Reichsgau governments have been shown. There are, however, regional differences that make it impossible to give a picture that will apply to all. Dienststrafkammern are also attached at this level, but they are shown elsewhere on the chart.

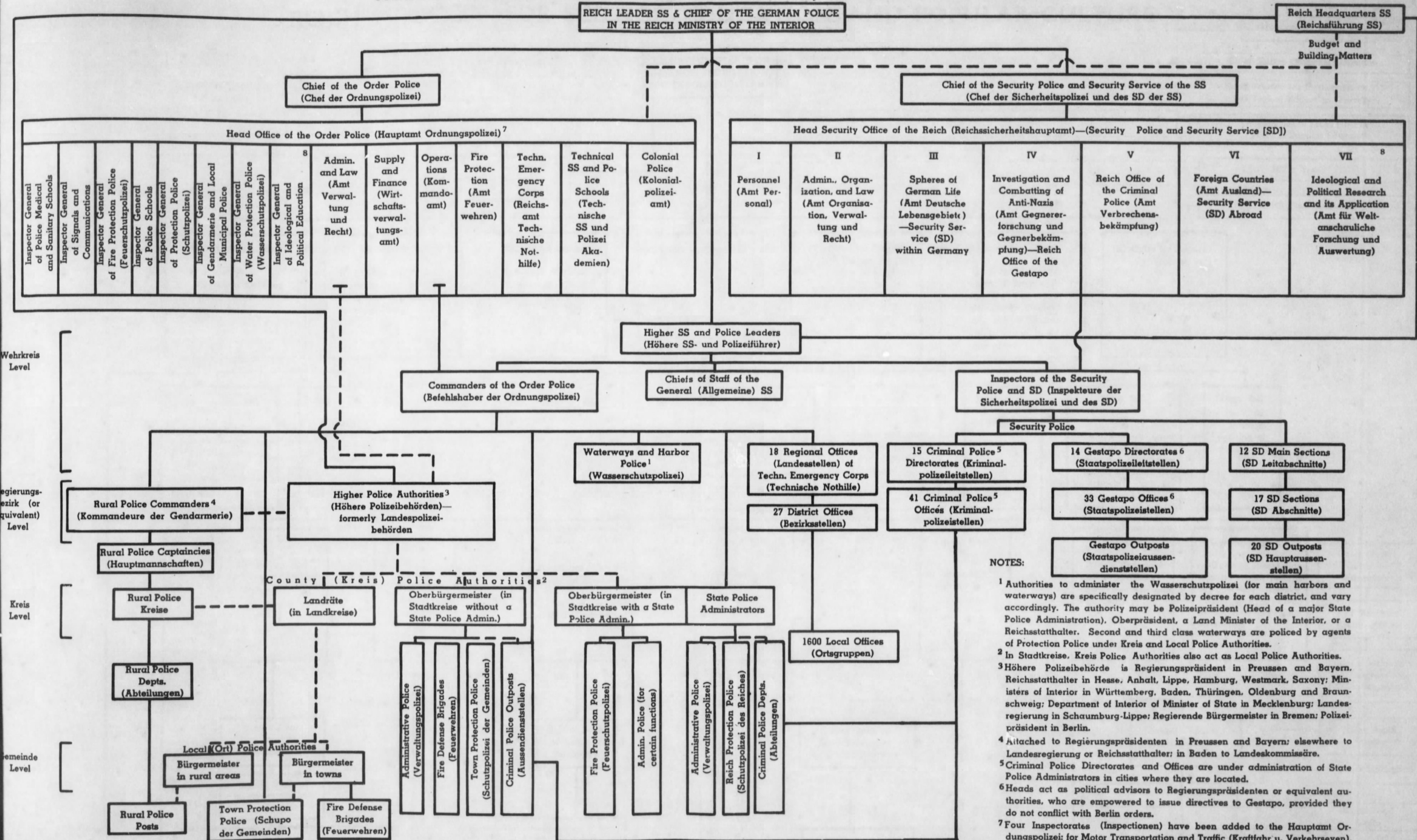
Space limitations make it impossible to give a complete picture of the Kreis governments.

Only three Länder (Prussia, Bavaria and Saxony) are divided into Regierungsbezirke. Land Baden is divided into Landeskommisärbezirke, rather than Regierungsbezirke. In Prussia, although the Regierungspräsident is on a lower administrative level than the Oberpräsident, his functions belong to a different rather than to a subordinate sphere, and he reports directly to the Minister of the Interior.

REICH MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR, CHART B-POLICE

CONFIDENTIAL

15



NOTES:

- 1 Authorities to administer the Wasserschutzpolizei (for main harbors and waterways) are specifically designated by decree for each district, and vary accordingly. The authority may be Polizeipräsident (Head of a major State Police Administration), Oberpräsident, a Land Minister of the Interior, or a Reichsstatthalter. Second and third class waterways are policed by agents of Protection Police under Kreis and Local Police Authorities.
- 2 In Stadtkreise, Kreis Police Authorities also act as Local Police Authorities.
- 3 Höhere Polizeibehörde is Regierungspräsident in Preussen and Bayern, Reichsstatthalter in Hesse, Anhalt, Lippe, Hamburg, Westmark, Saxony; Ministers of Interior in Württemberg, Baden, Thüringen, Oldenburg and Braunschweig; Department of Interior of Minister of State in Mecklenburg; Landesregierung in Schaumburg-Lippe; Regierende Bürgermeister in Bremen; Polizeipräsident in Berlin.
- 4 Attached to Regierungspräsidenten in Preussen and Bayern; elsewhere to Landesregierung or Reichsstatthalter; in Baden to Landeskommisäre.
- 5 Criminal Police Directorates and Offices are under administration of State Police Administrators in cities where they are located.
- 6 Heads act as political advisors to Regierungspräsidenten or equivalent authorities, who are empowered to issue directives to Gestapo, provided they do not conflict with Berlin orders.
- 7 Four Inspectorates (Inspektionen) have been added to the Hauptamt Ordnungspolizei: for Motor Transportation and Traffic (Kraftfahr u. Verkehrswesen), Arms and Equipment (Waffen u. Geräte), Air Raid Precautions (die Luftschutzpolizei u. den Luftschutzeinsatz), Veterinary Matters (Veterinärwesen). Status of these Inspectorates in relation to other components of Hauptamt Ordnungspolizei is not clear.
- 8 On 1 January 1944 an Inspector for all Ideological Education in SS and Police (Inspekteur f. die gesamte Weltanschauliche Erziehung in der SS und Polizei) was appointed. He is directly subordinate to SS Hauptamt in Reichsführung SS, possibly replaces corresponding authorities in Hauptamt Ordnungspolizei and Reichssicherheitshauptamt.

OTHER OFFICES IN THE SPHERE OF INFLUENCE (GESCHÄFTSBEREICH) OF THE MINISTRY OF THE INTERIOR (Grouped Under Competent Departments of the Ministry, to Extent Permitted by Available Information)

- Dept. I (Constitution; Legislation, Administration): Reich Deputy for Electoral Examination Procedures; Reich Election Leader.
- Dept. III (Veterinary Matters): Reich Institute for Control of Animal Disease; Reich Examination Office for State Veterinarians; State (Prussia?) Veterinary Office.
- Dept. IV (Public Health and Welfare): Examination Committee for Doctors, Dentists and Pharmacists; Commissar for Volunteer Nursing (temporarily under the High Command of the Wehrmacht); Reich Genealogical Research Office; Reich Deputy for Health and Welfare Institutions; Reich Institute for Maintaining Purity of Air and Water; Prussian State Institute for Pure Food and Drugs, and Legal Chemistry; Robert Koch Institute.

Reich Institute for Combatting Contagious Diseases; Reich Health Research Office (assisted in Research by a large number of specialists); State (Prussia?) Health Council; 3 Institutes of Hygiene (each State Health Officer must have taken a course in one of these); Reich Institute for Vitamin Testing and Research; Reich Committee for the Protection of German Blood; Expert Advisory Council for Population and Race Politics.

Dept. V (Local Government): Financial Settlement Office.

Dept. VI (Miscellaneous): Reich Bureau for Emigration; Reich Archive in Potsdam; Reich Archive in Wien; Reich Topography Office; Examination Office for the Higher Administrative Levels of the Surveying Profession; Central Information Office for War Casualties and War Graves.

Dept. VIII (Sport and Physical Training): Reich Sport Office and Reich Academy for Physical Exercise.

Competent Department Doubtful: Reich Publications Office; Reich Research Institute; National Recruiting Agency.

OTHER OFFICES UNDER THE SUPERVISION OF THE MINISTRY

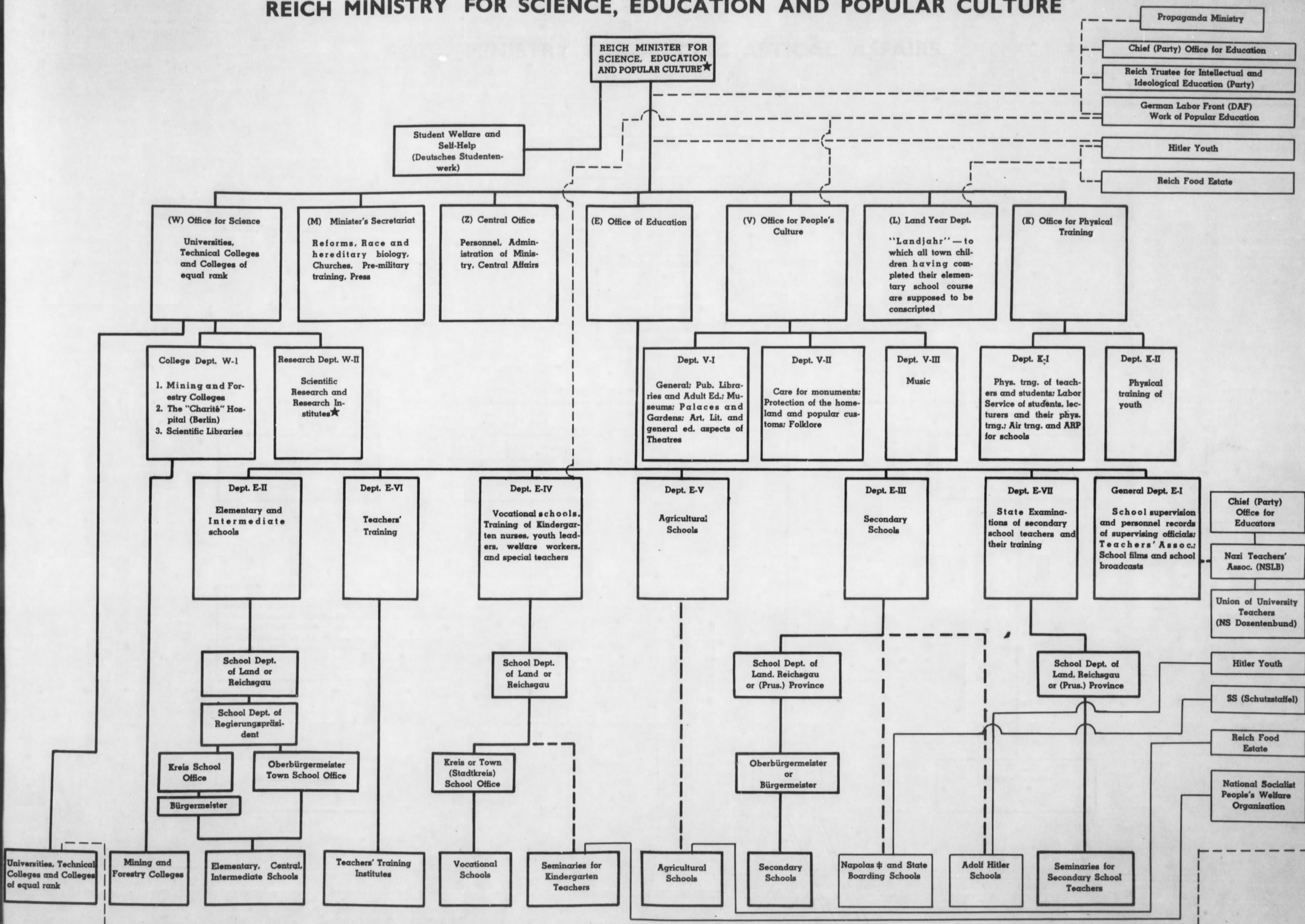
Dept. I (Constitution; Legislation, Administration): Academy for German Law.

Dept. III (Veterinary Matters): Reich Chamber of Veterinarians; German Veterinary Court.

Dept. IV (Public Health and Welfare): Reich Committee for Public Health Service, (Head: Conti). (Embraces all former voluntary associations of health bodies—Dept. I: Race Propaganda, etc.; Dept. II: General Public Health and Nutrition); German Institute for Youth Help; German Red Cross; Reich Chamber of Dentists; German Dentists' Court; Pharmacy Court; German Medical Court; Reich Chamber of Pharmacists.

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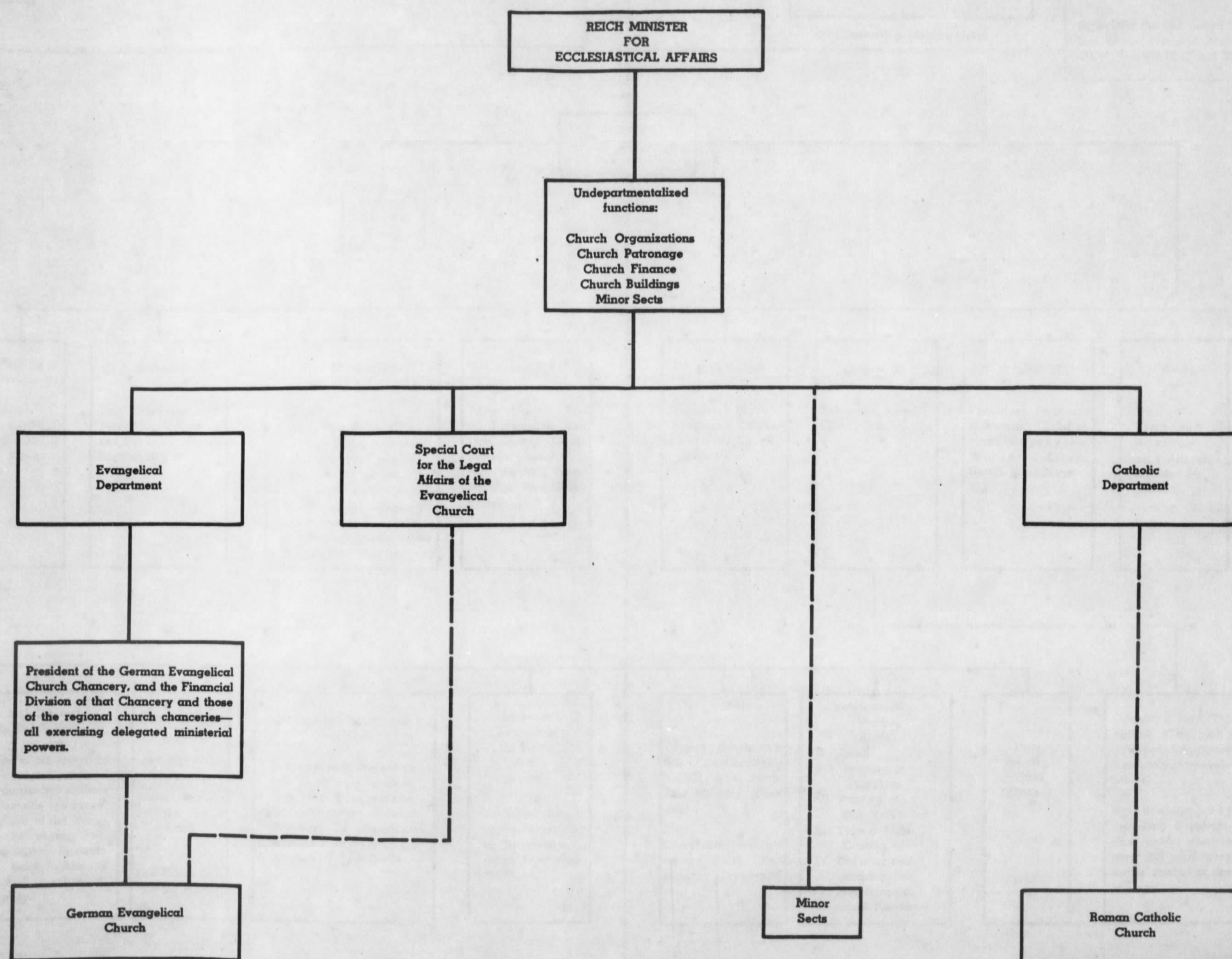
REICH MINISTRY FOR SCIENCE, EDUCATION AND POPULAR CULTURE



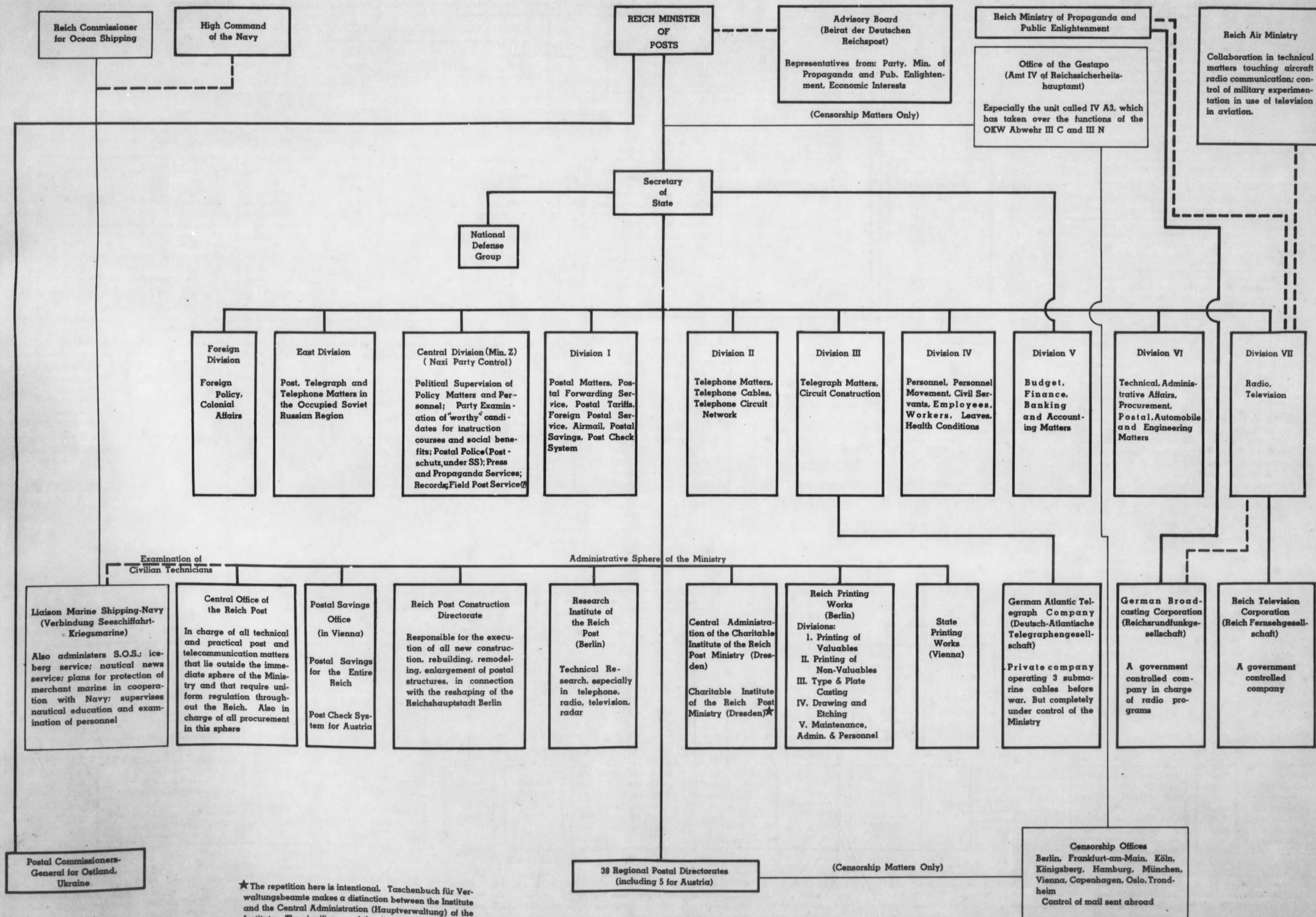
★ Deutsches Zentralinstitut für Erziehung und Unterricht, Reichsstelle für Schulwesen, and a number of other educational institutes, schools of music and art, libraries, and various committees—all constituting subordinate Reich and Prussian offices (nachgeordnete Dienststellen)—fall within the sphere of influence of the Ministry, but are not shown on this chart.

‡ National Political Educational Institutes

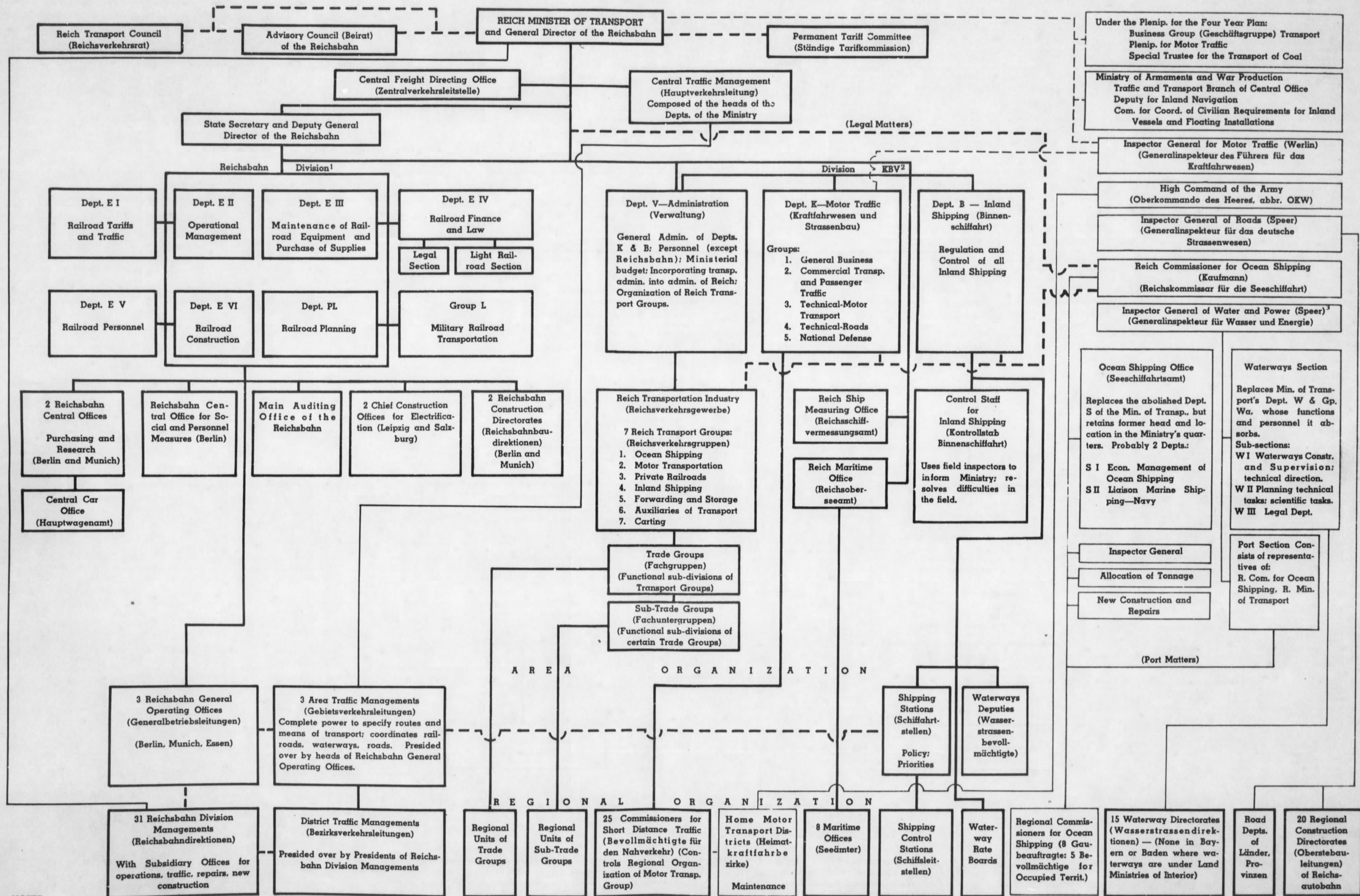
REICH MINISTRY FOR ECCLESIASTICAL AFFAIRS



REICH MINISTRY OF POSTS



REICH MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT



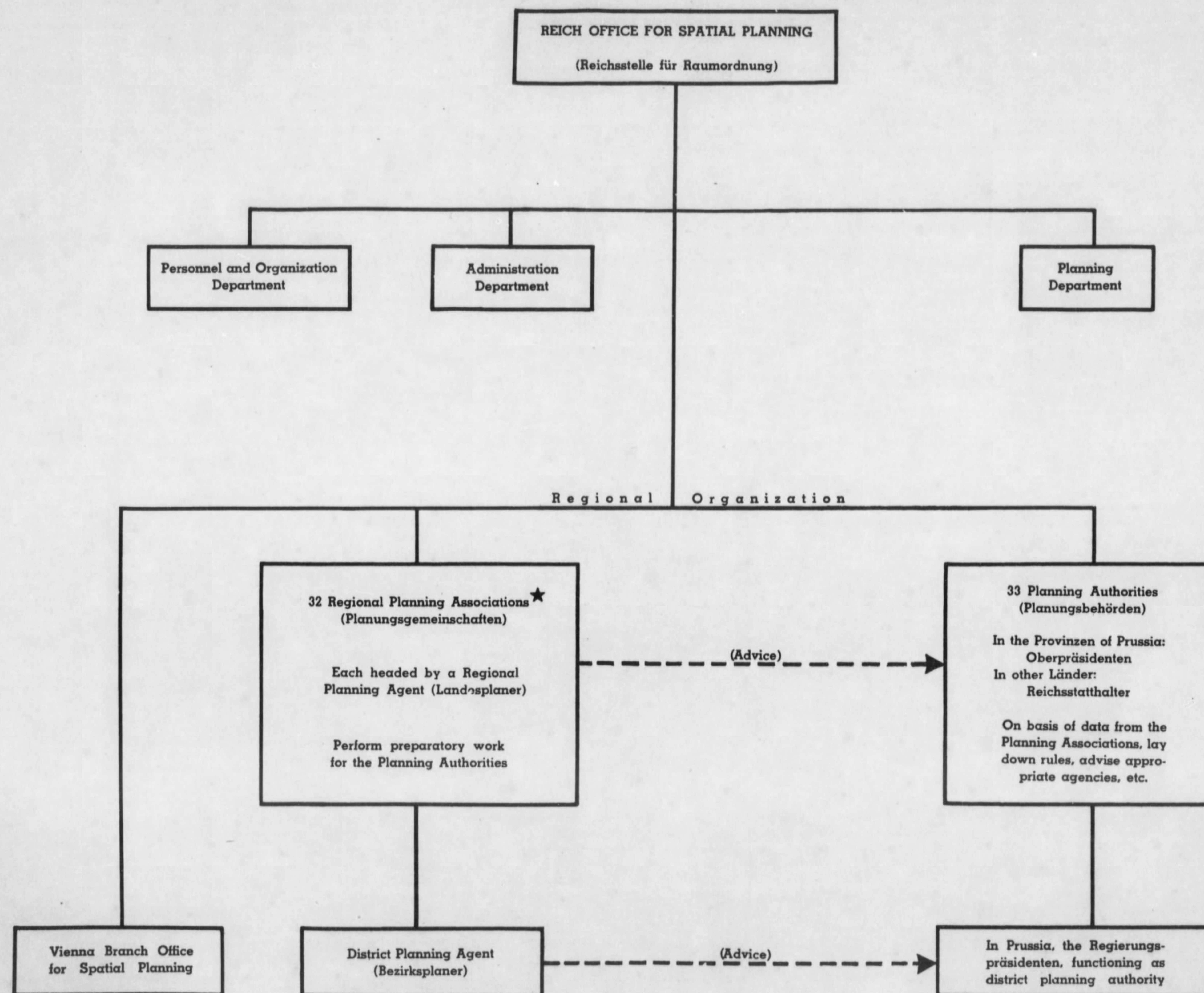
NOTES:

¹In the sphere of influence of the Reichsbahn Division: Reich Examining Office for Higher Civil Engineering Administrative Officials, General Direction of the Eastern Railroad, Reichsverkehrsbank, Deutsche Verkehrs-Kredit-bank A.G., Central European Sleeping Car and Dining Car Corp., Reichsbahn Central Office for German Tourist Traffic, Central European Travel Bureau, Ltd., Schenker & Co., Ltd., German Railroad Express Co., Ltd. (Deutsche Bahnspedition G.m.b.H.), as well as numerous public utilities engaged in production of electricity.

²In the sphere of influence of Division KBV: National Commissioners for Technical Training of Seamen, Committees for the Regulation of Ocean Freight and for the Technical Training of Seamen, Research Council for Traffic Problems, Nürnberg Automobile Racing Co., Ltd., Reich Truck Operators' Association, Shipping Associations, Freight Committees, Aller-Ore River Transport Combine, Seamen's Court (Seemannamt), National Canal Bureau (Reichskanalamt).

³Besides the Waterways Section and the Port Section, the Inspector General for Water and Power (Speer) has also a Water Economy Section and a Power Section. He is, further, Chairman of the Reich Water Economy Council, upon which various Reich Ministers, etc., may sit. Most of Speer's functions in the field of power are now carried on in the Power Office of his Ministry of Armaments and War Production.

REICH OFFICE FOR SPATIAL PLANNING



★ Planning Associations are public corporations formed for each "planning-space" (Provinz, Land, etc.) and are composed of the "self-governing" agencies of the regions, the main Reich and other public agencies and authorities dealing with land questions in the region (e.g., the railway, transport, forestry, mining administrations in the respective district), other agencies dealing with related questions (Food Estate, German Labor Front, etc.), and finally, scientific institutions dealing with problems concerning questions of country planning, settlement, etc. The Associations are organized in various committees, councils, etc. Although current affairs of the Associations are directed by the Regional Planning Agent, their chairmen *ex officio* are the Oberpräsidenten (in the Provinzen of Prussia) or the Reichsstatthalter (in other Länder).

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GER-ADMIN

MFA&A Ruth Hein.

ORGANIZATION CHARTS OF THE GERMAN MINISTRIES
AND
MINISTERIAL LEVEL AUTHORITIES

PREPARED BY PLANNING AND COORDINATION SECTION

U. S. GROUP C. C.

25 OCTOBER, 1944

FIRST EDITION

ERRATA

ORGANIZATION CHARTS OF THE GERMAN MINISTRIES

and

MINISTERIAL LEVEL AUTHORITIES (FIRST EDITION)

1. Introduction: Delete "the Air Ministry", 6th line; it is stated in the Introduction that the Air Ministry is not covered in this series. Actually there is a chart (#20) of the Air Ministry.
2. Reich Ministry of Economics (Chart #3):
 - a. Delete: "Reich Supervising Office for Credit Institutions", from the group of offices designated as "In the sphere of influence of the Ministry". This office was abolished, effective 1 Oct 44, and its functions were divided and transferred to the Minister of Economics and the Reichsbank Directorate. The Minister delegates certain of the functions assigned to him to the Reichsgruppe Banken, and retains others. A more detailed memorandum can be had from the Intelligence Section, Armed Forces Division.
 - b. The box in the lower right-hand corner should be printed in red rather than in black.
3. Reich Ministry for Armaments and War Production (Chart #4):
 - a. Parenthetical note over the four regional boxes in lower right-hand corner of chart should read "(First three under Econ. Min; fourth under Food Estate)".
 - b. Box around Gau Economic Chambers should be black.
4. Reich Ministry of Labor (Chart #5):

The empty red box in the upper right-hand corner should be labeled : Minister of Armaments and War Production.
5. Reich Ministry of Food and Agriculture (Chart #6):

The phrase "possibly fused" should appear on the dotted red line between the Reich Offices (Reichstellen) and the Central Marketing Associations.
6. Supreme Auditing Office of the Reich (Rechnungshof)(Chart #10):

Delete Ministry of Economics (box in upper right) and dotted line running from it to Auditing Office.
7. Reich Ministry of Transport (Chart #12):

The four regional boxes in the lower right-hand corner of the chart should be printed in red rather than in black.

INTRODUCTION

The following Organization Charts of the German Ministries and Ministerial level authorities have been prepared from sources listed below. With a few exceptions all Ministerial level authorities are represented in this series. In order that the scope of these charts be properly understood it should be noticed that the following authorities are not covered: The four Chanceries, the High Command of the Armed Forces (OKW), the Air Ministry, the "Protectors," Governors, and Commissioners administering occupied territory, and the Ministry for the Occupied Eastern Territories. There is no separate chart for the Four Year Plan, since it is not amenable to such treatment, but where it controls a German Ministry in whole or part the Plenipotentiary for the Four Year Plan or one of the authorities subsidiary to him is shown on the chart of the Ministry in question. The same treatment has been given the many Commissioners and General Inspectors directly under Hitler. Thus, neither the Inspector General of Roads nor the Reich Commissioner for Ocean Shipping have charts of their own, but both are shown as controlling elements on the chart of the Ministry of Transport. All the most important of such officials have been covered to this extent at least.

Each of the Ministries has been limited to one page with the exception of the Ministry of the Interior. To depict this Ministry on one page would have required an undesirable abridgement.

It was considered useful to make a rough distinction between the Ministries*

* By "Ministries" is meant all Reich Ministries, the Reichsbank Directorate, the Supreme Auditing Office of the Reich (Rechnungshof), and the Reich Office for Spatial Planning.

as they now exist (including the Ministries of Propaganda and Ecclesiastical Affairs) and controlling authorities and Party agencies extraneous to them (including the war-time Ministry of Armaments and War Production). The former have been presented in black; the latter in red. Although all structures in red represent either war-time expedients or Party organizations and are probably destined for abolition, it does not follow that all structures in black are not Party agencies or not destined for abolition.

SOURCES

1. Organization Charts of the German Ministries, prepared by Divisions A and B, U.S. Group, C.C.
2. Taschenbuch für Verwaltungsbeamte - 1943.
3. German Basic Handbook (P.I.D.).
4. Civil Affairs Guides (War Department Pamphlets published 22 July 1944. Series 31).
5. Civil Affairs Handbooks (Army Service Forces Manuals published on various dates in 1944. Series M-356).
6. Handbook of Military Government for Germany (prepared by the German Country Unit).
7. Reichsgesetzblatt.
8. Die Organisation der deutschen Ernährungswirtschaft. Dr. F. Mullenbusch (Reichsnährstand Verlags - Ges. m. b. H., Berlin 1941).
9. Centralisation of German Economic Administration (a paper prepared by the Ministry of Economic Warfare).

MINISTERIAL COUNCIL FOR THE DEFENSE OF THE REICH

TABLE OF CONTENTS

Ministerial Council for the Defense of the Reich	1
Propaganda Organization (Ministry and Party)	2
Reich Ministry of Economics	3
Reich Ministry for Armaments and War Production	4
Reich Ministry of Labor	5
Reich Ministry of Food and Agriculture	6
Reich Forestry Office	7
Reich Ministry of Finance	8
Reichsbank Directorate	9
Supreme Auditing Office of the Reich (Rechnungshof)	10
Reich Ministry of Justice	11
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Reich Ministry of Posts	13
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Reich Ministry of the Interior - Chart I	15
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Reich Office for Spatial Planning	19
Reich Air Ministry	20

LEGEND FOR CHARTS

Black Lines: All the Ministries* as they now exist (including the Ministries of Propaganda and Ecclesiastical Affairs).

Red Lines : Controlling authorities and Party agencies extraneous to the Ministries (including as "extraneous" the war-time Ministry of Armaments and War Production).

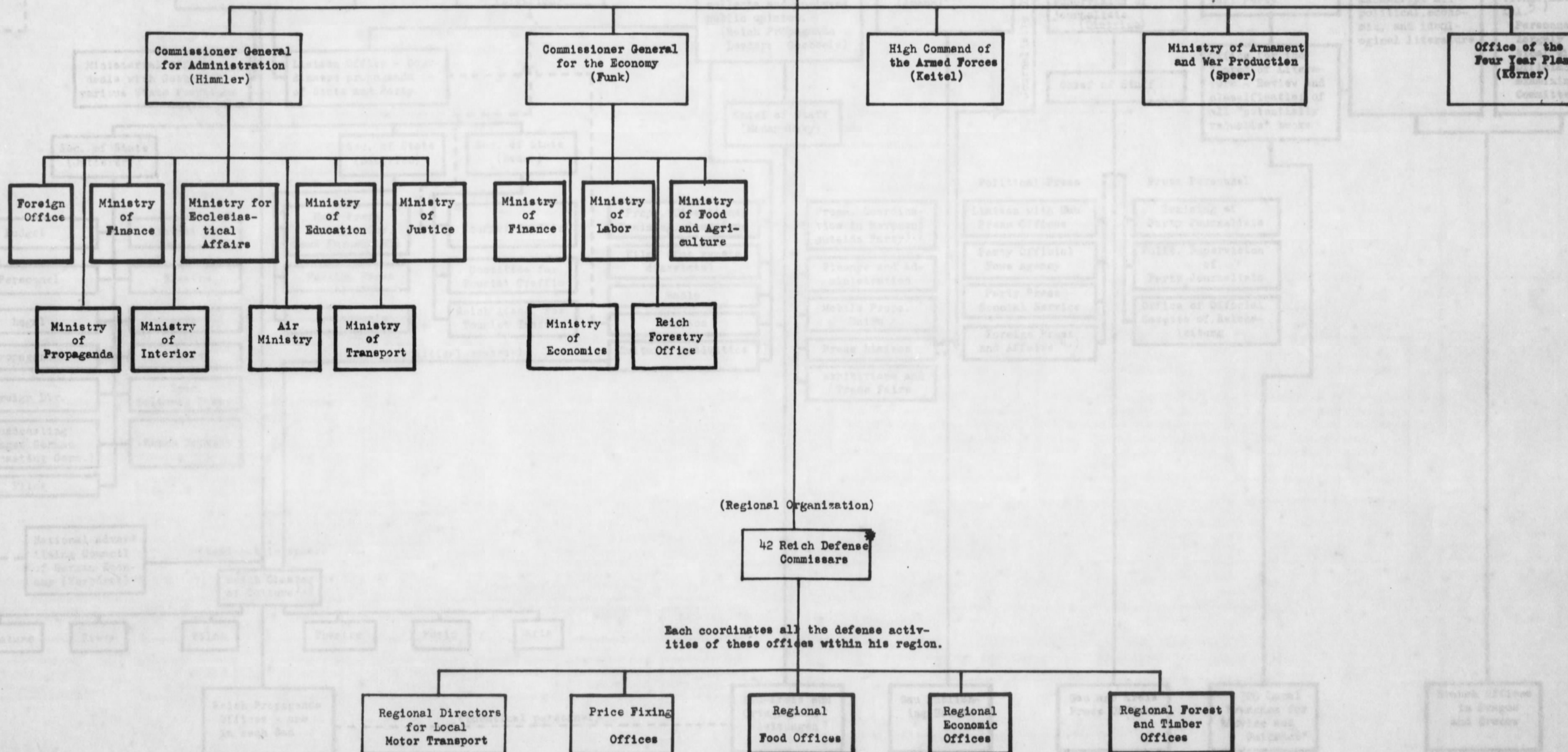
Lines of Direct Control (except where "in sphere of influence" is written. In these cases the degree of control varies.)

Lines of Indirect Control, Collaboration, or Liaison.

* By "Ministries" is meant all Reich Ministries, the Reichsbank Directorate, the Supreme Auditing Office of the Reich (Rechnungshof), and the Reich Office for Spatial Planning.

MINISTERIAL COUNCIL FOR THE DEFENSE OF THE REICH

MINISTERIAL COUNCIL FOR THE DEFENSE OF THE REICH					
Chairman (Göring)	Interior (Himmler)	Economy (Funk)	Army (Keitel)	State (Lammers)	Party (Bormann)



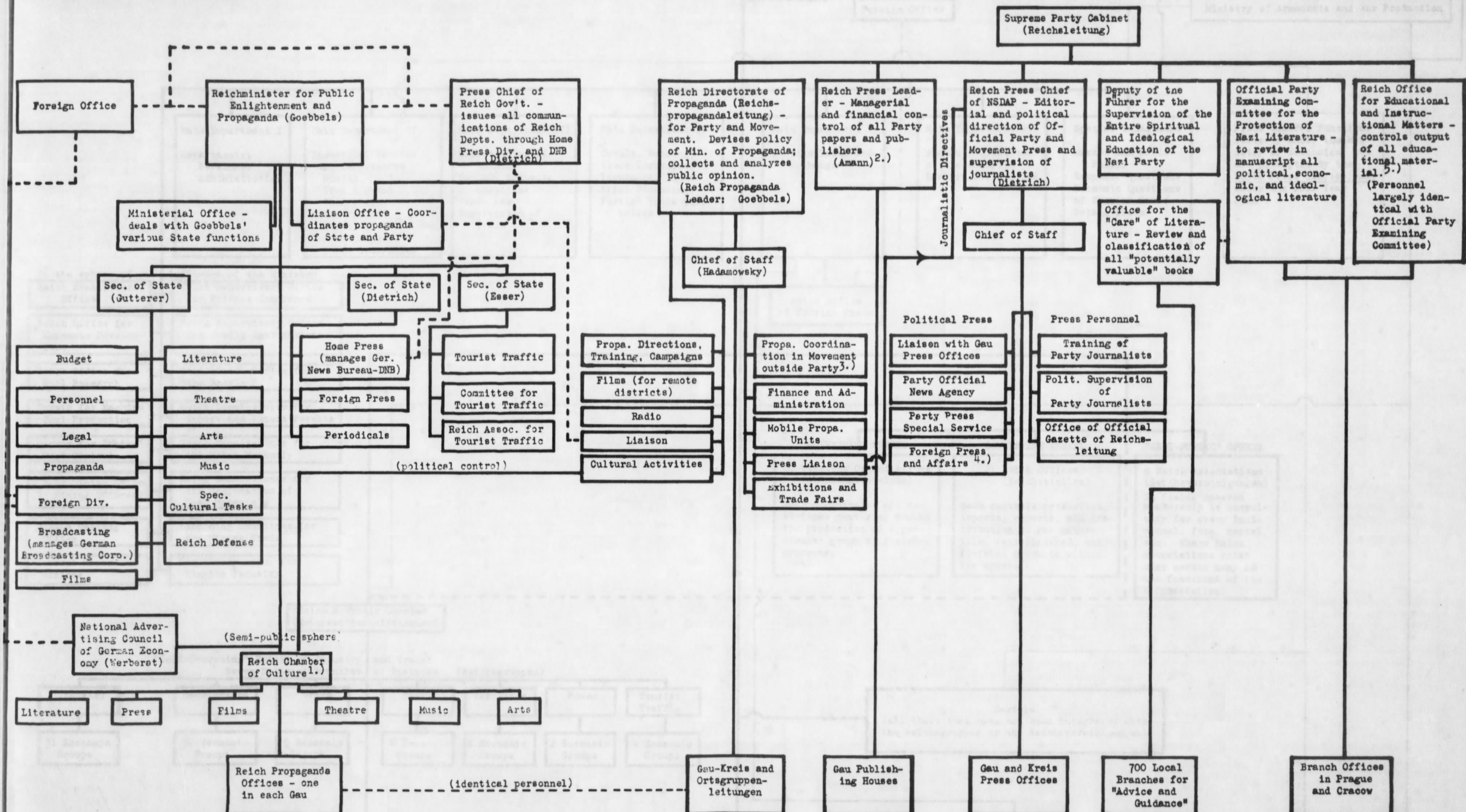
* Personally identical with Gauleiters

PROPAGANDA ORGANIZATION (EXCLUDING OKW)

2

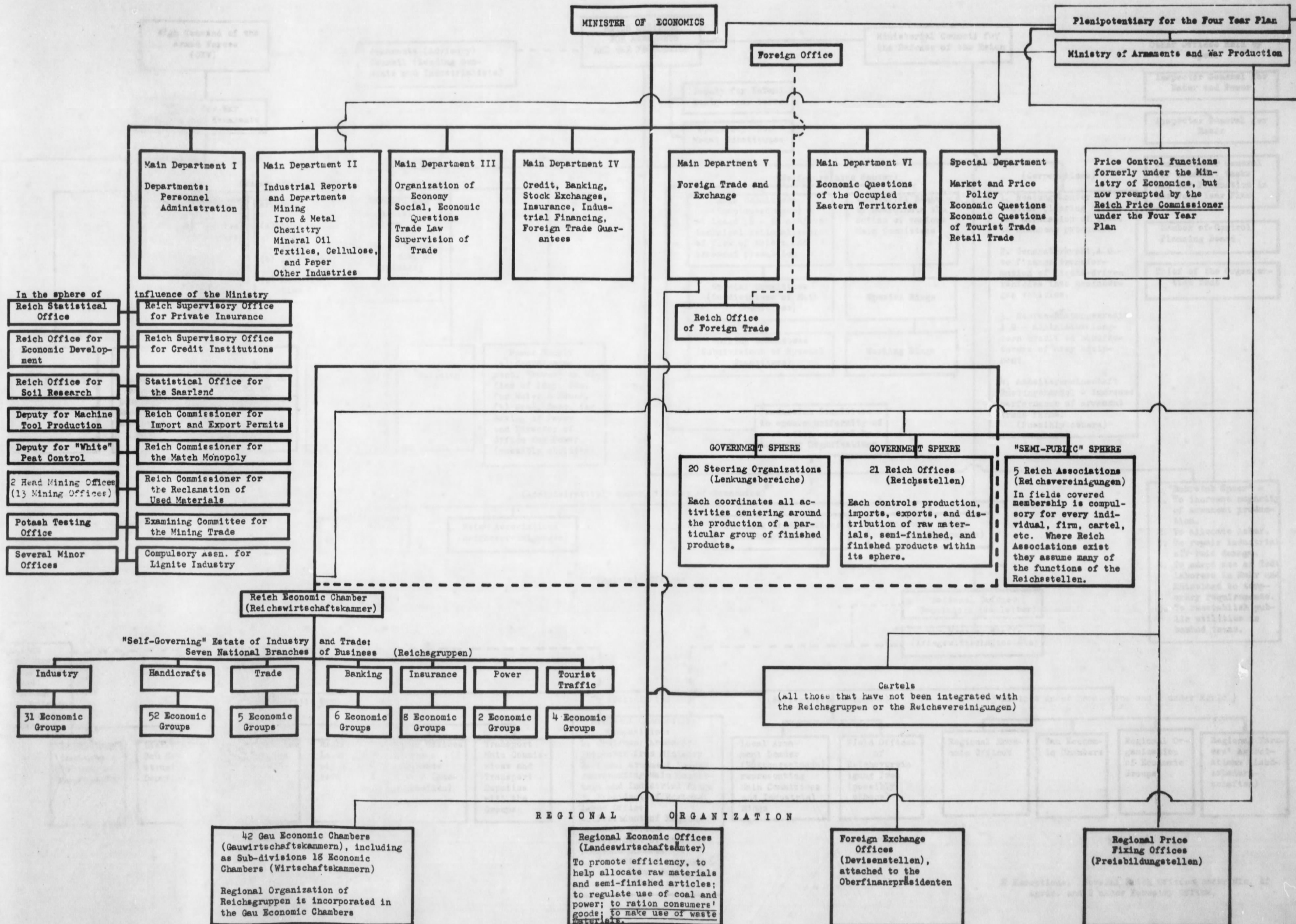
REICH MINISTRY FOR PUBLIC ENLIGHTENMENT & PROPAGANDA

PARTY



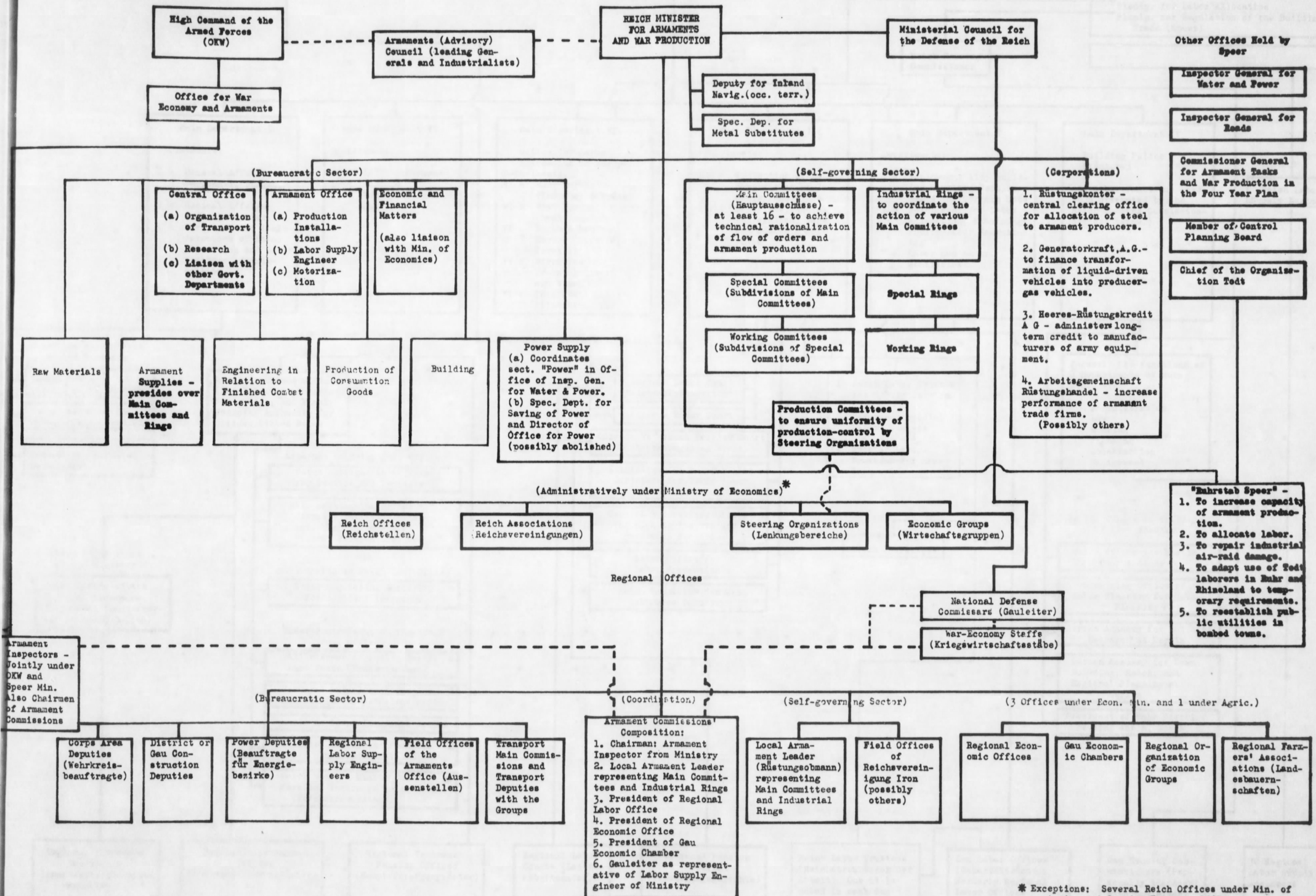
NOTES:

1. Partly under supervision of Min. of Economics.
2. Personally controls Eher Verlag and its numerous subsidiaries.
3. Consists of a "Reicherring": contains delegates from propaganda sections of all branches of the movement outside the Party proper (German Labor Front, Hitler Youth, etc.); also representatives of other depts. of the Supreme Party Cabinet (Reichsleitung).
4. Head of this section always identical with head of Foreign Press Div. of Propaganda Ministry.
5. Contains representatives of other interested depts. of the State and of the Party -- Hitler Youth, NS Teachers' Assoc., Main Education Office (Hauptschulungsamt), Dept. of the Fuhrer for the Supervision of the Entire Spiritual and Ideological Education of the Nazi Party.



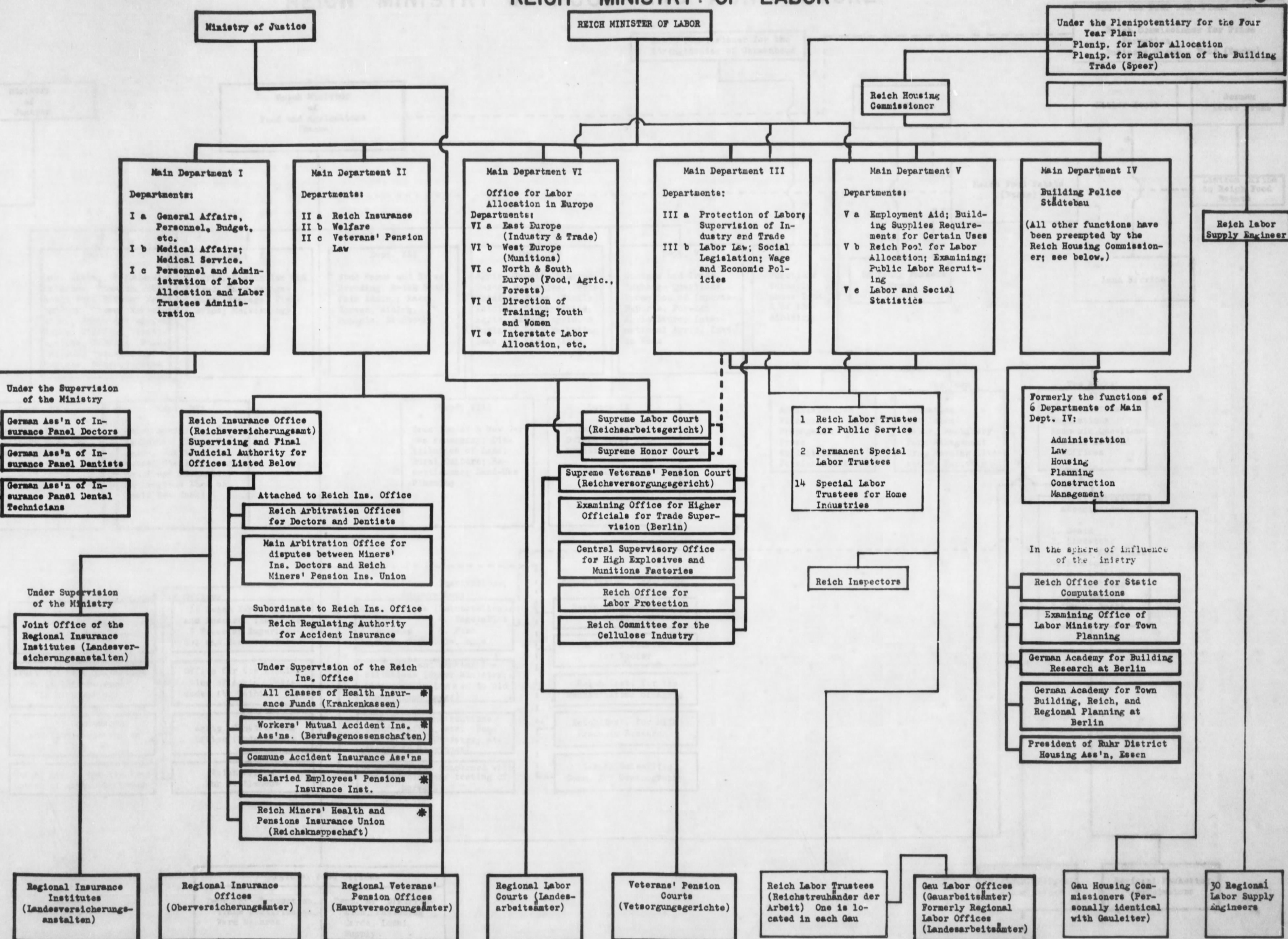
REICH MINISTRY FOR ARMAMENTS AND WAR PRODUCTION

4



REICH MINISTRY OF LABOR

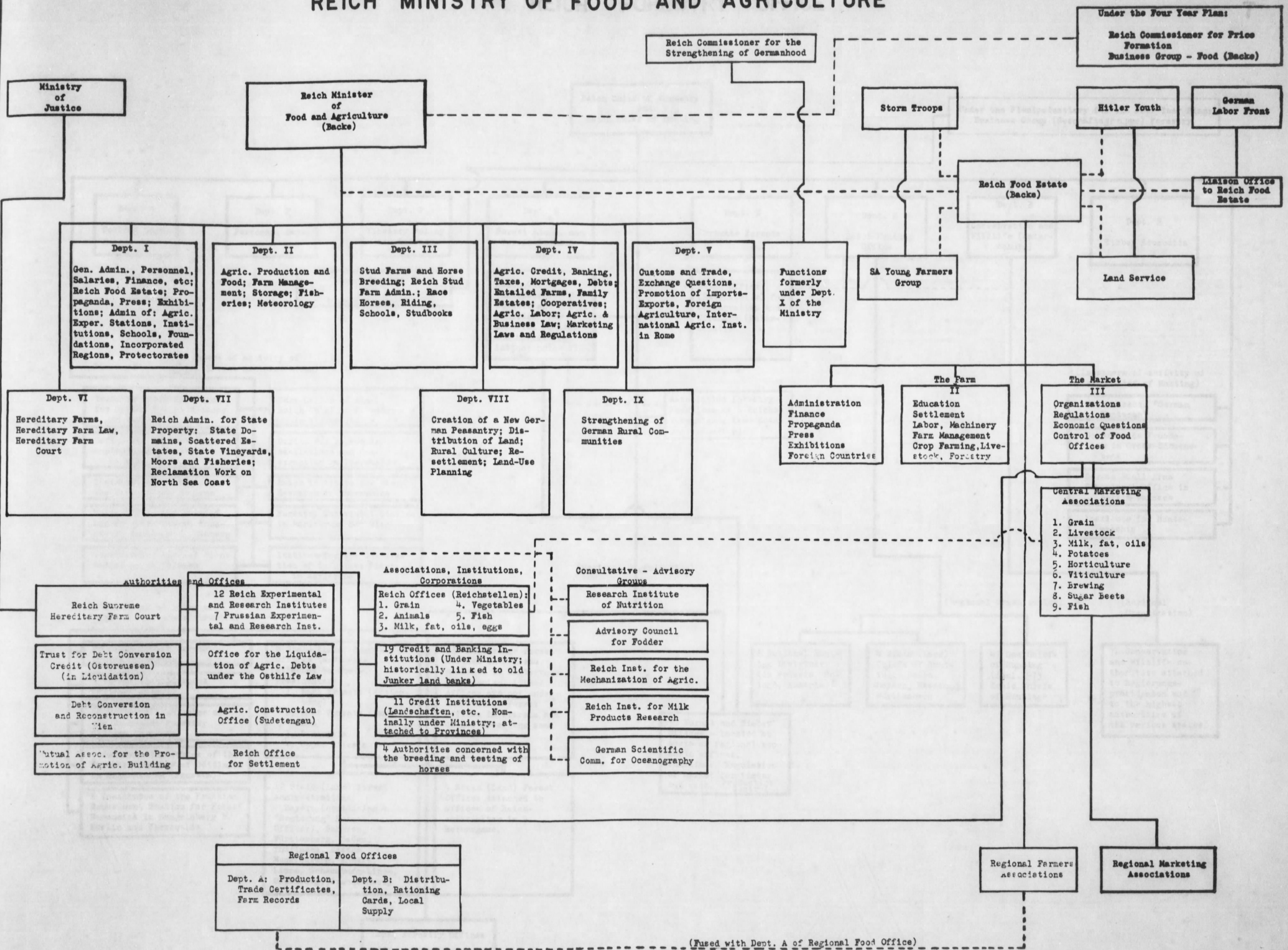
5



* Courts of First Appeal for these authorities are the Regional Insurance Offices; final Judicial Authority is the Reich Insurance Office.

REICH MINISTRY OF FOOD AND AGRICULTURE

6

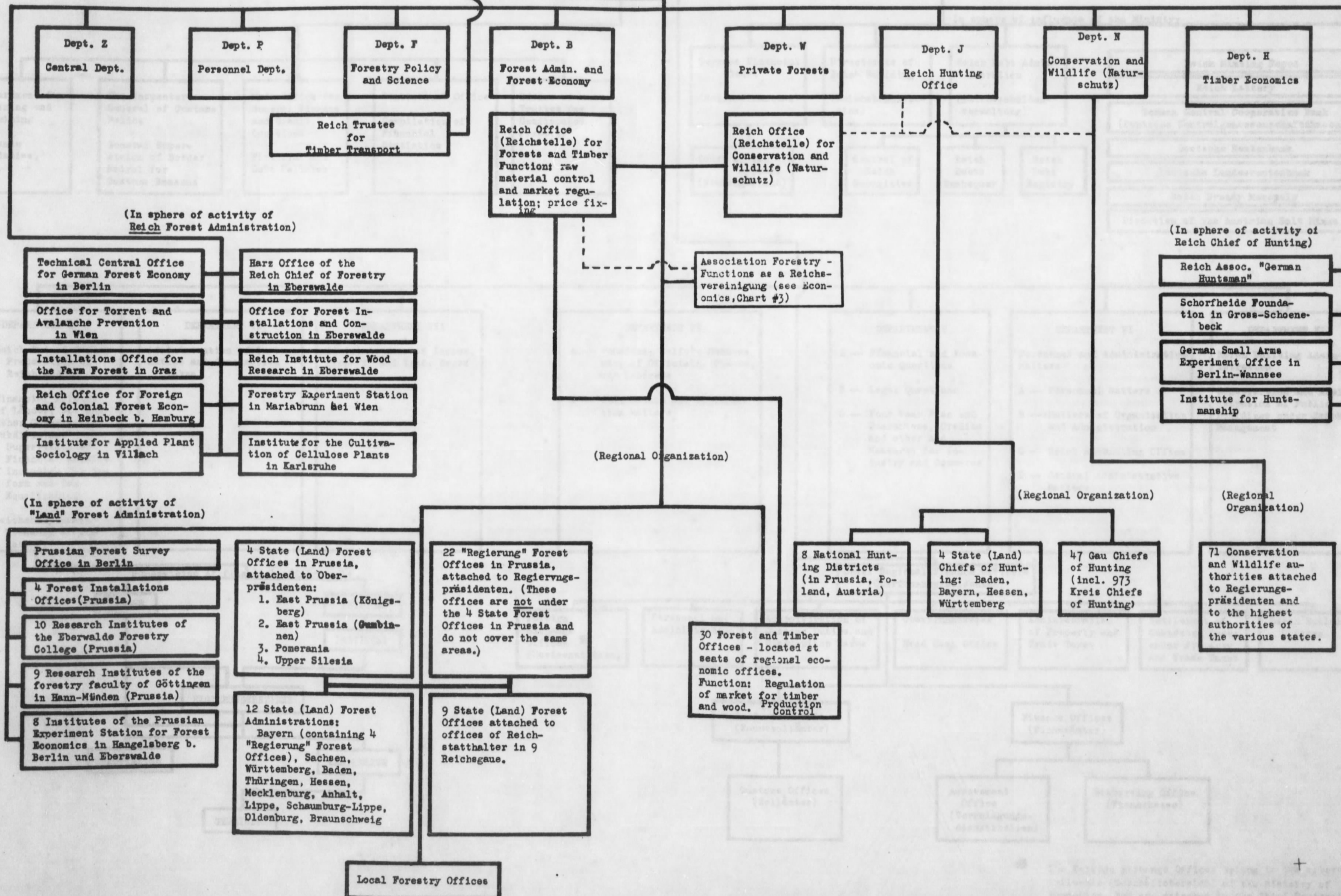


REICH FORESTRY OFFICE

7

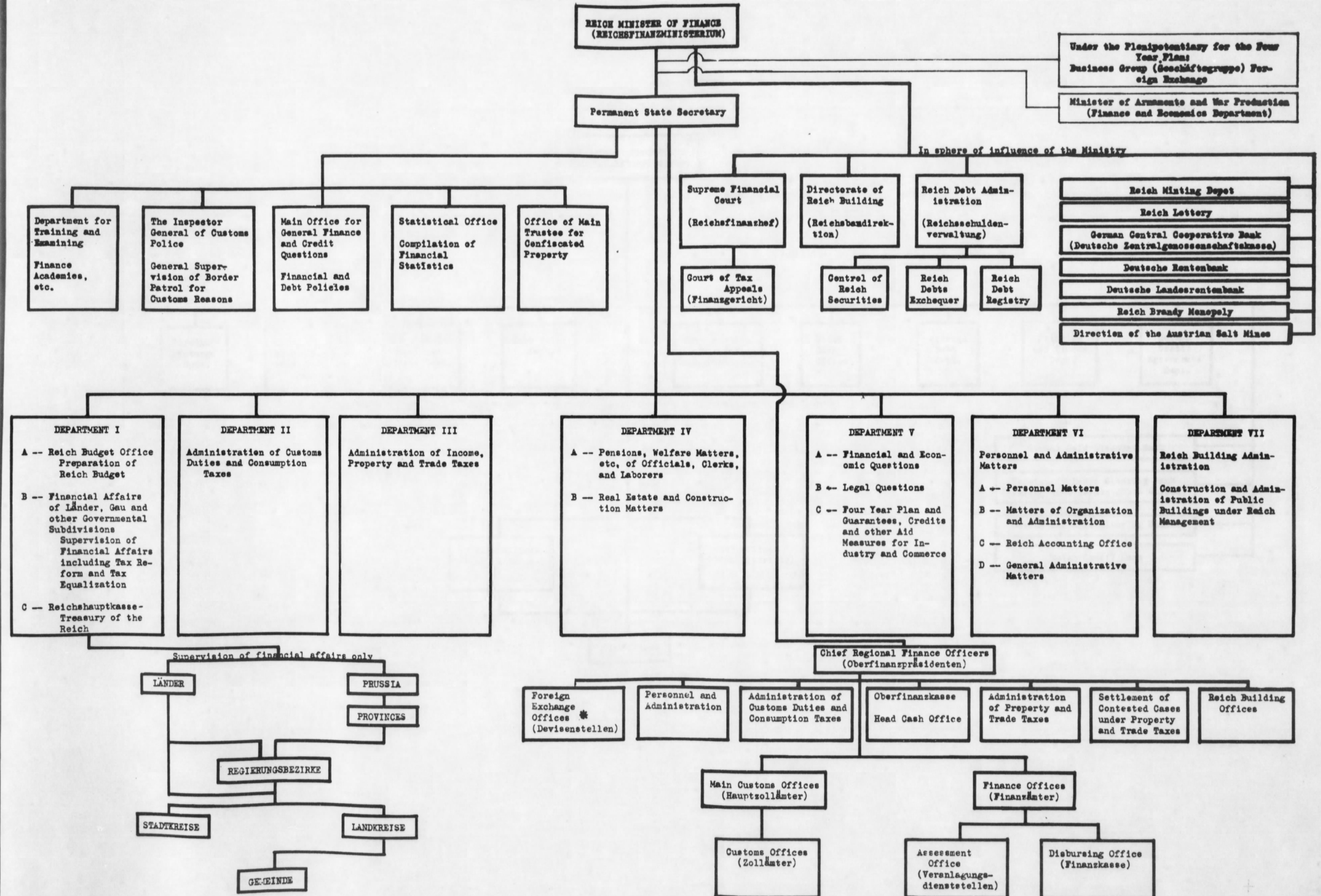
Reich Chief of Forestry and
Reich Chief of Hunting

Under the Plenipotentiary for the Four Year Plan:
Business Group (Geschäftsgruppe) Forestry



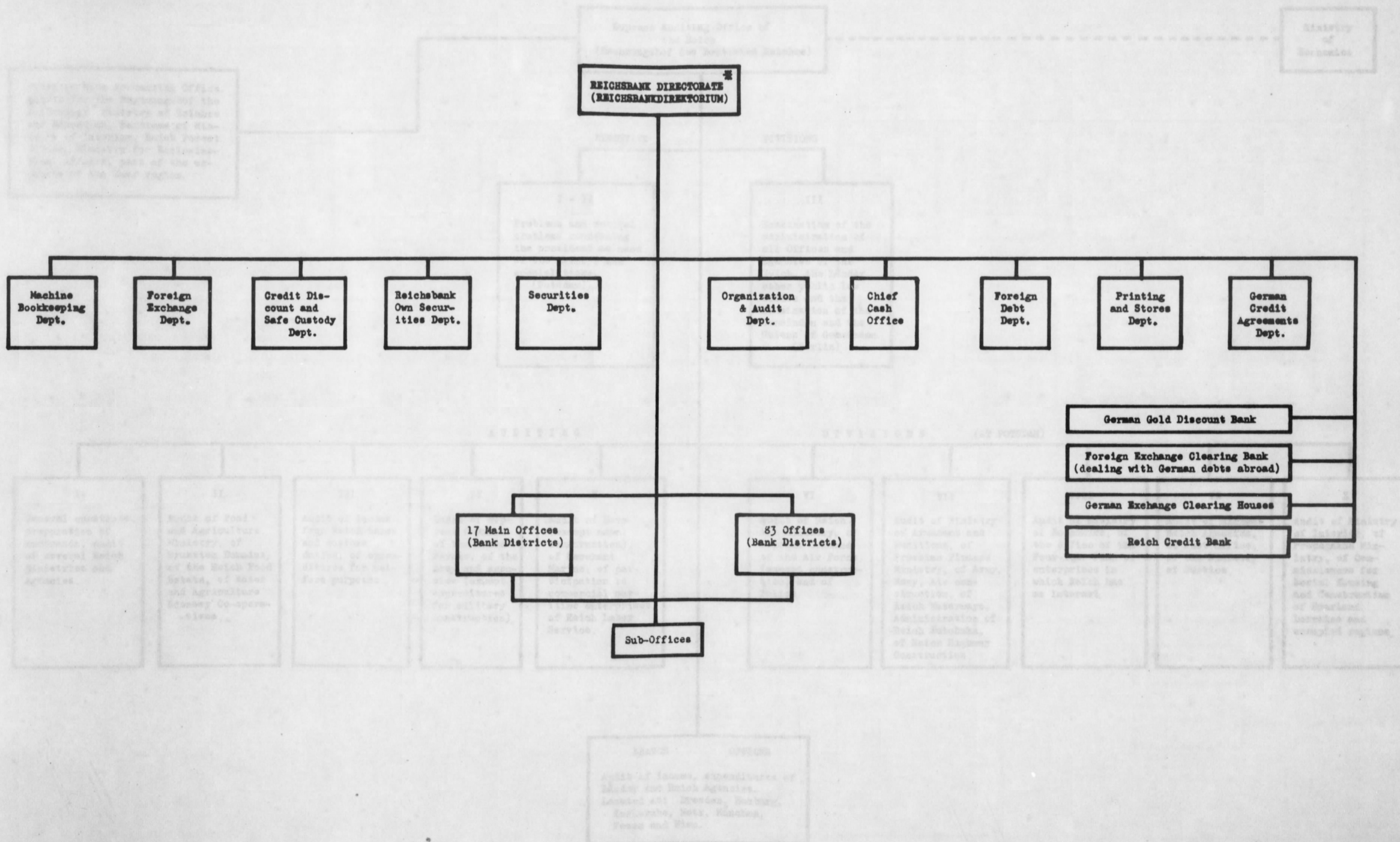
REICH MINISTRY OF FINANCE

8



* The Foreign Exchange Offices belong to the sphere of influence (Geschäftsbereich) of the Ministry of Economics, but are attached to the Chief Regional Finance Officers (Oberfinanzpräsidenten).

(RECHNUNGSHOF)

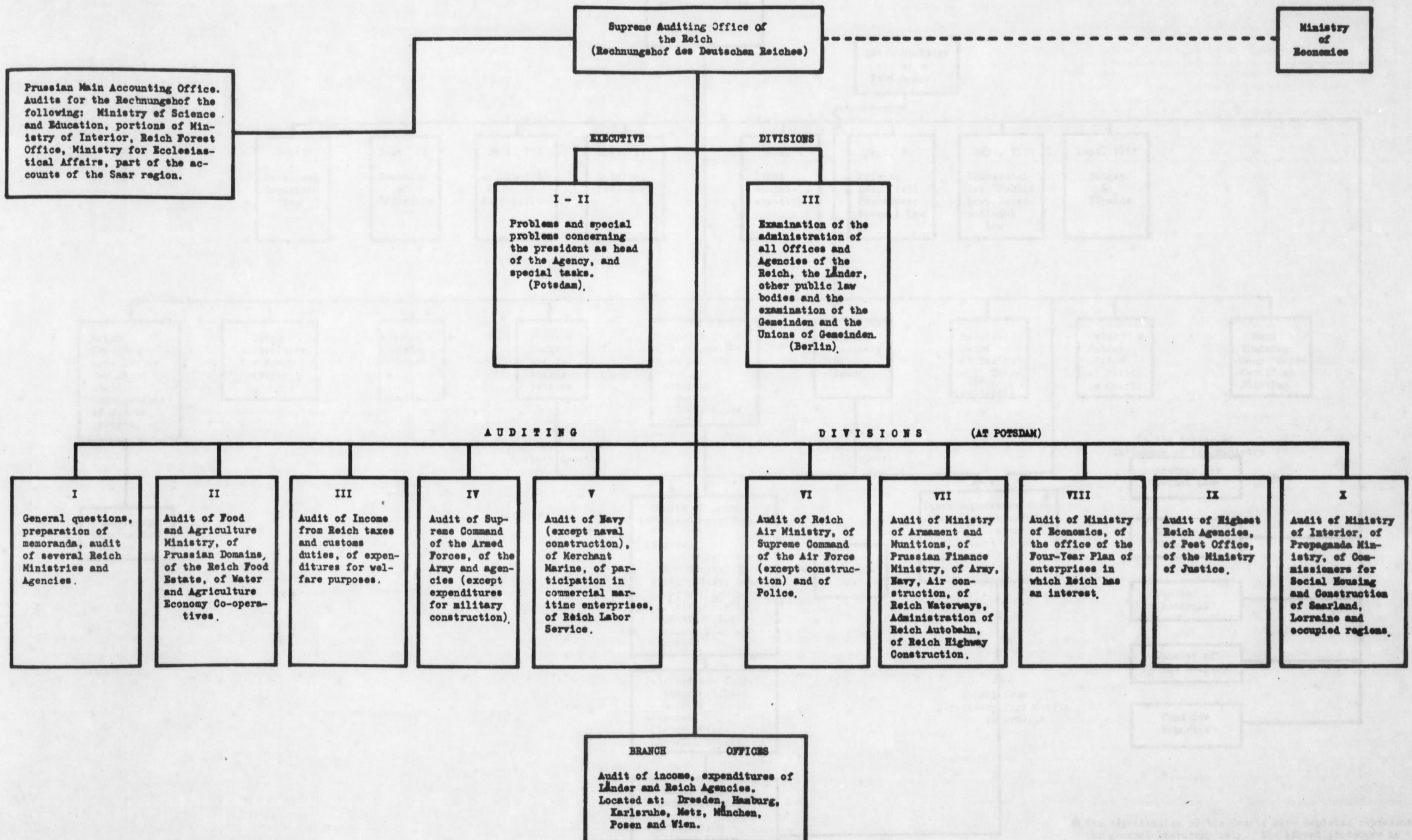


* Reichsbankpräsident is personally identical with Reichswirtschaftsminister (Funk)

SUPREME AUDITING OFFICE OF THE REICH

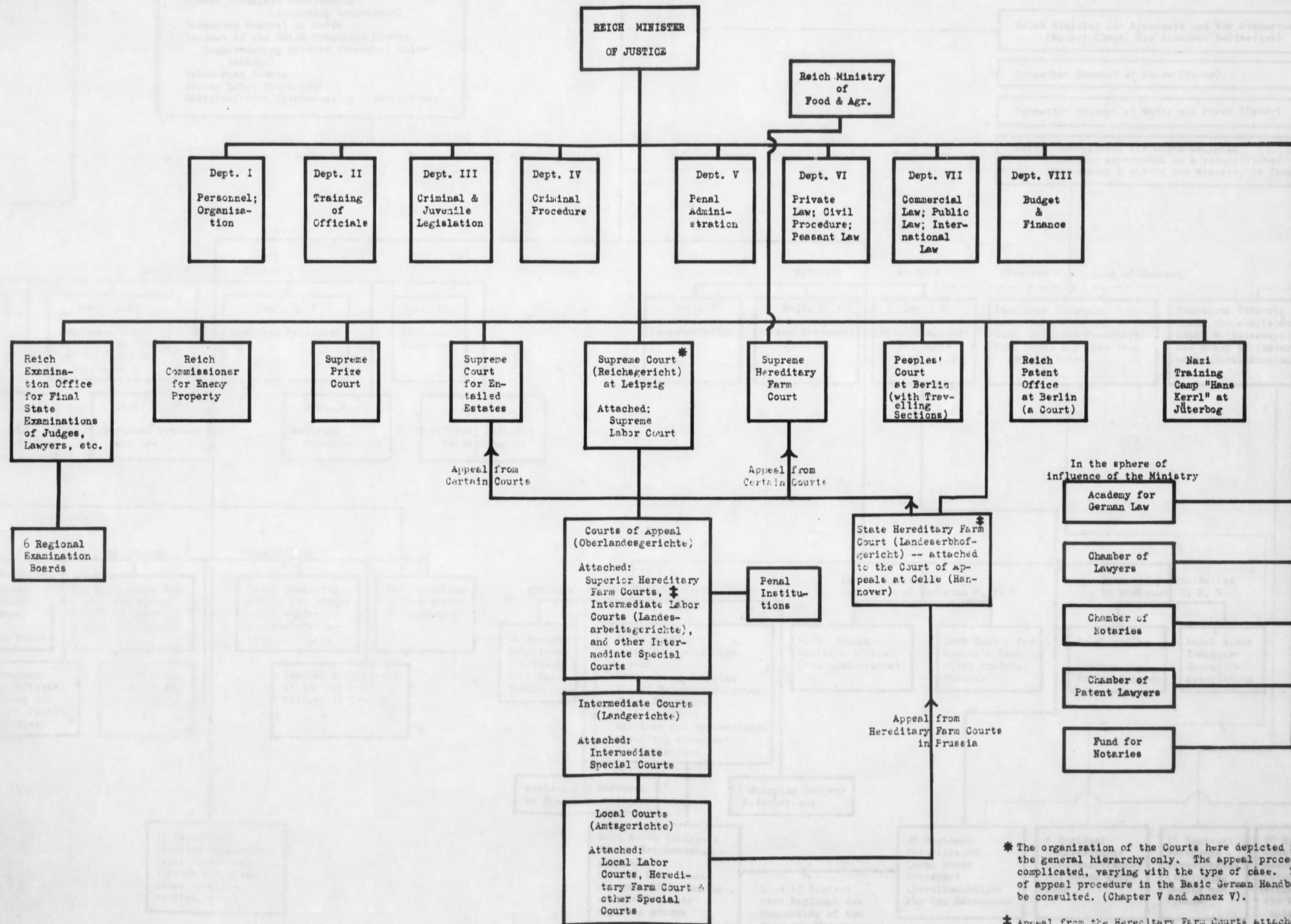
(RECHNUNGSHOF)

10



REICH MINISTRY OF JUSTICE

11

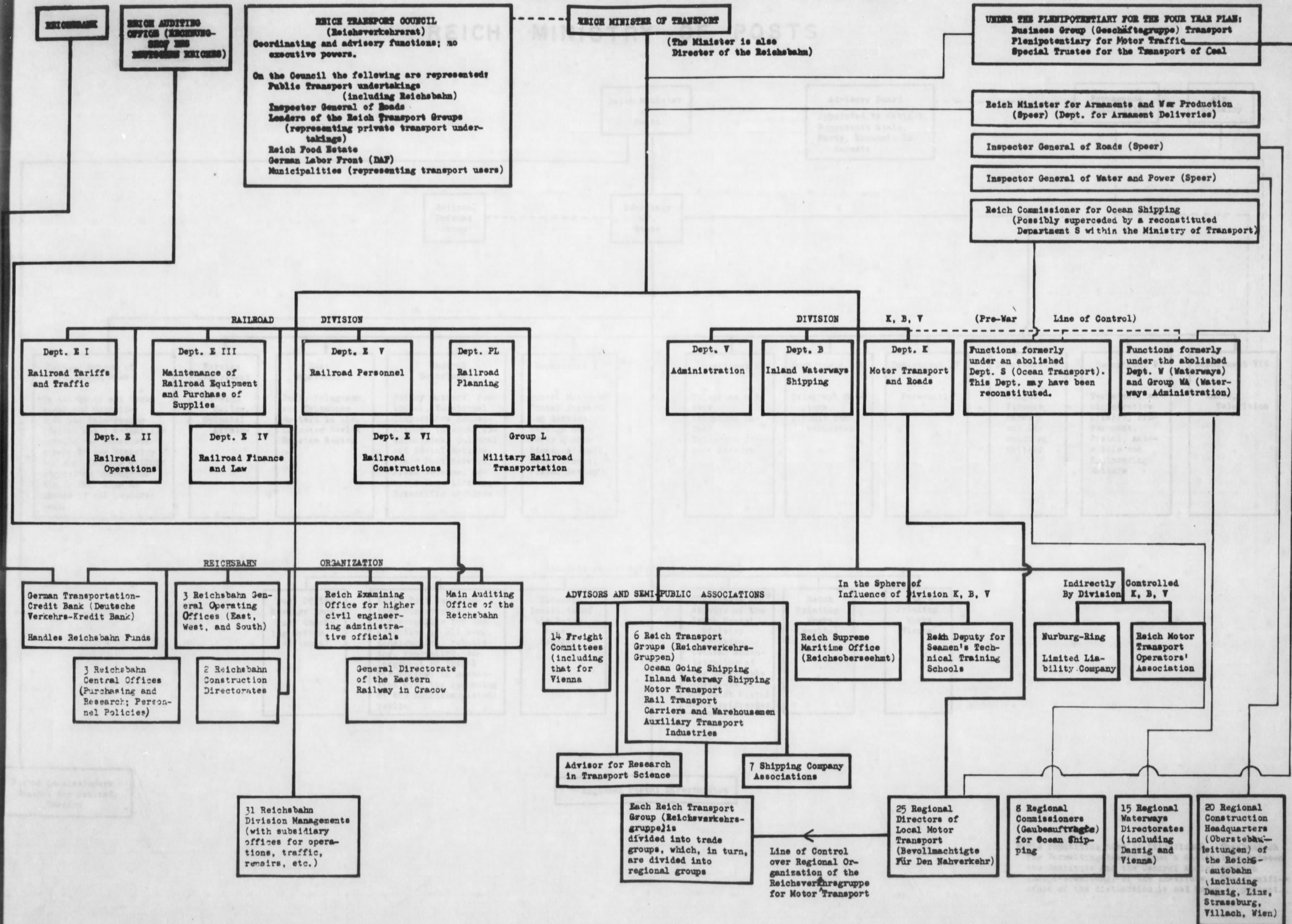


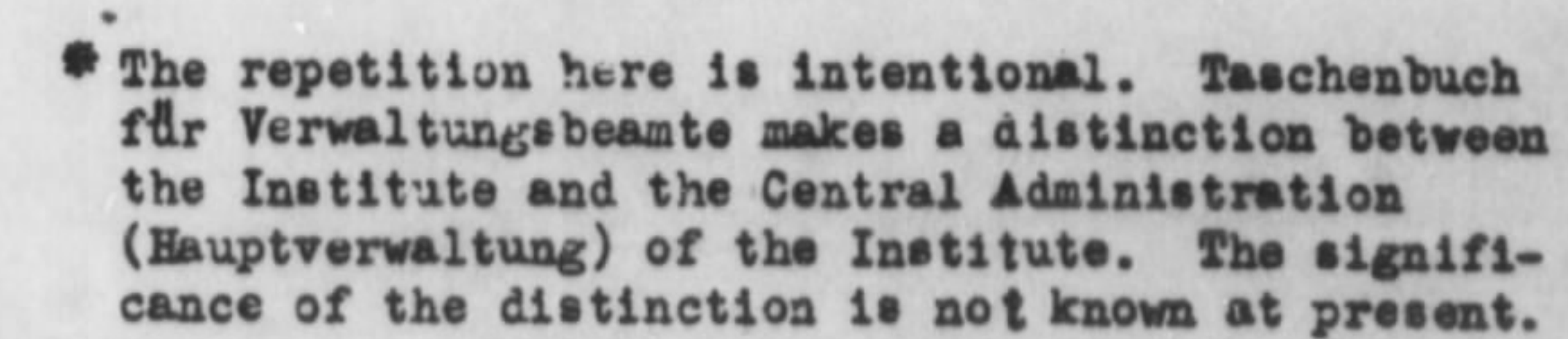
* The organization of the Courts here depicted represents the general hierarchy only. The appeal procedure is complicated, varying with the type of case. The tables of appeal procedure in the Basic German Handbook should be consulted. (Chapter V and Annex V).

‡ Appeal from the Hereditary Farm Courts attached to the Local Courts is taken to the Superior Hereditary Farm Court (Erbhofgericht) attached to the Court of appeals. In Prussia, however, the Superior Hereditary Farm Courts have been centralized in a State Hereditary Farm Court (Landeserbhofgericht) attached to the Court of appeals at Celle (Hannover).

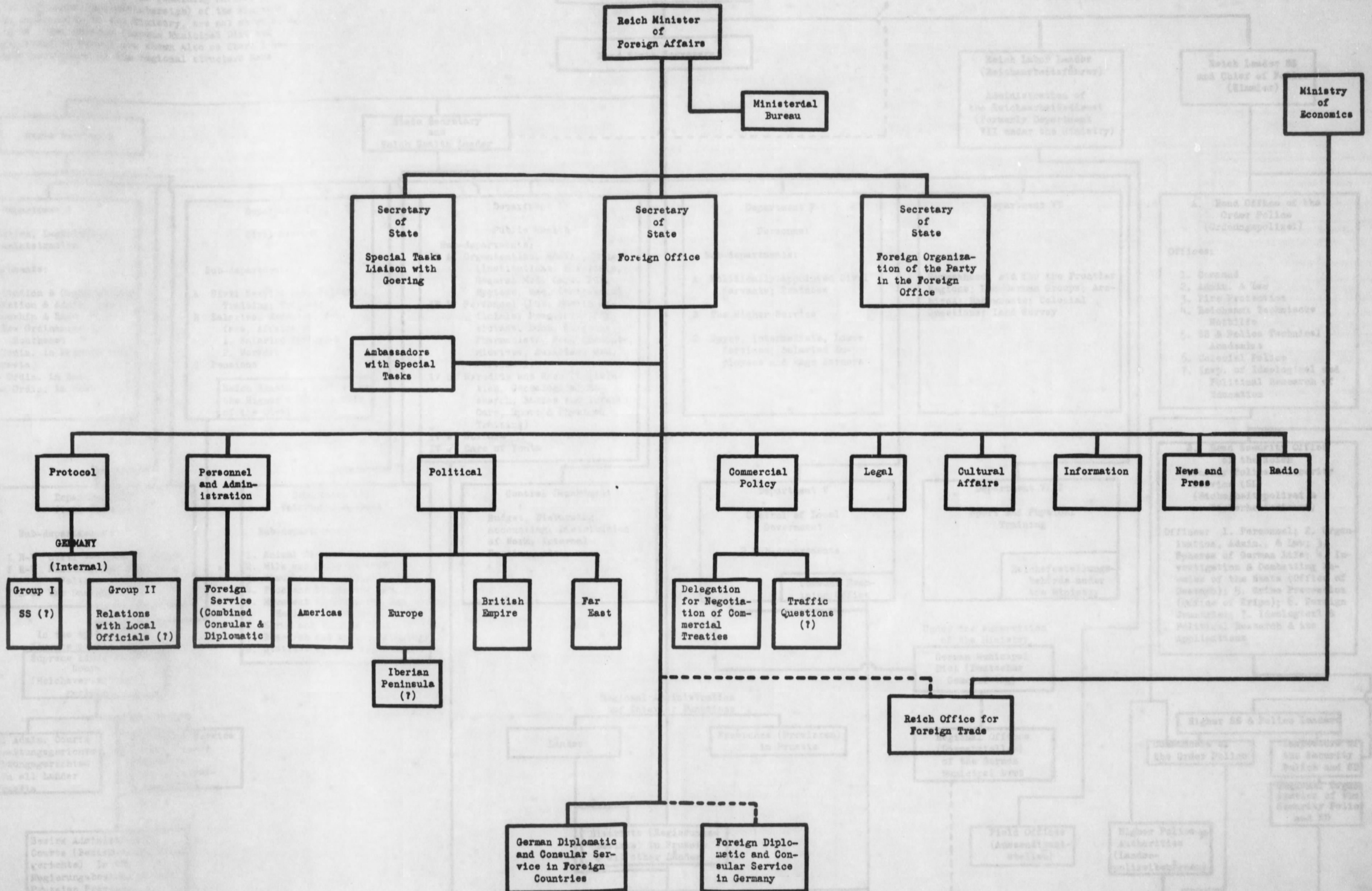
REICH MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT

12

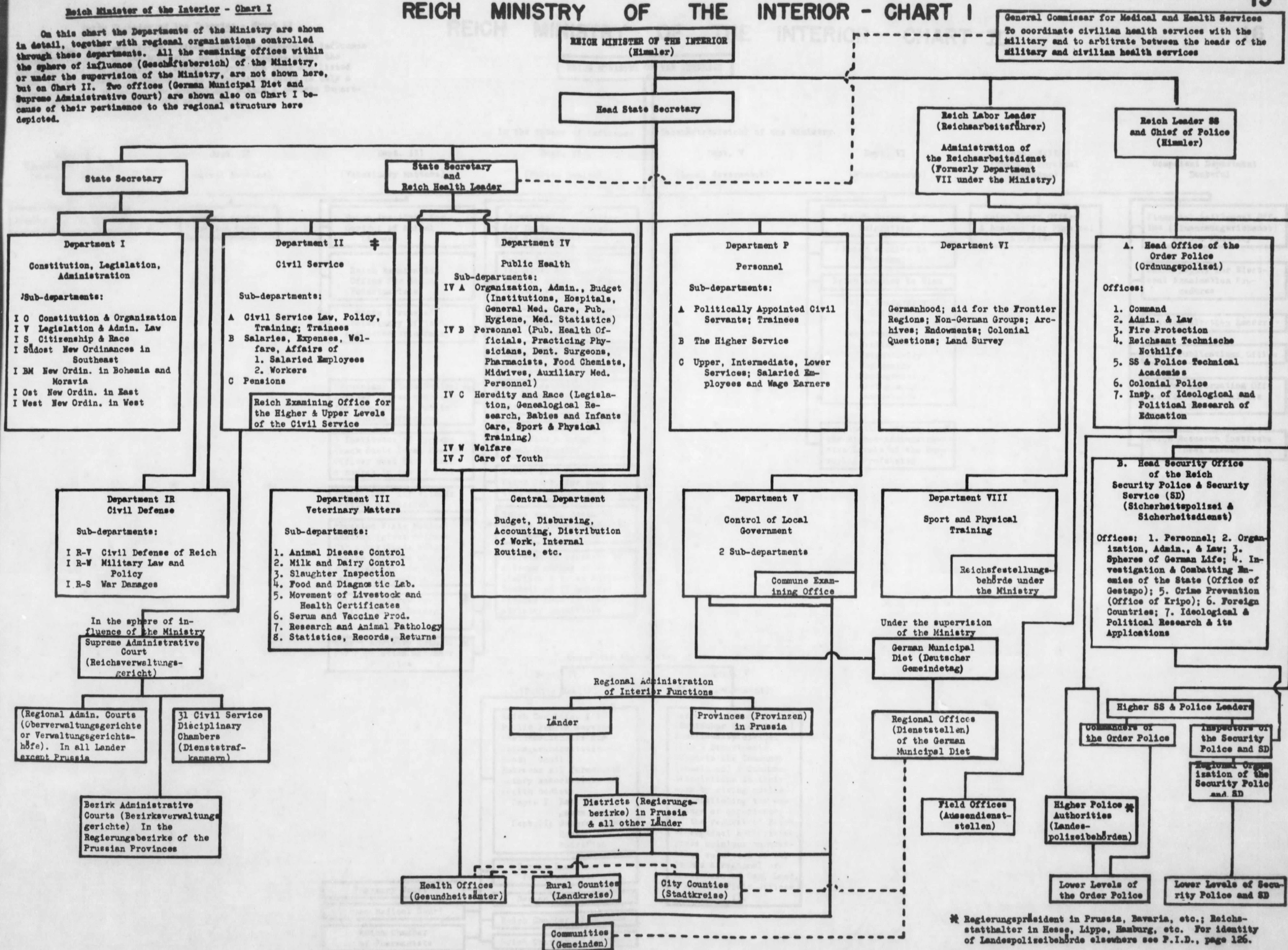




FOREIGN OFFICE



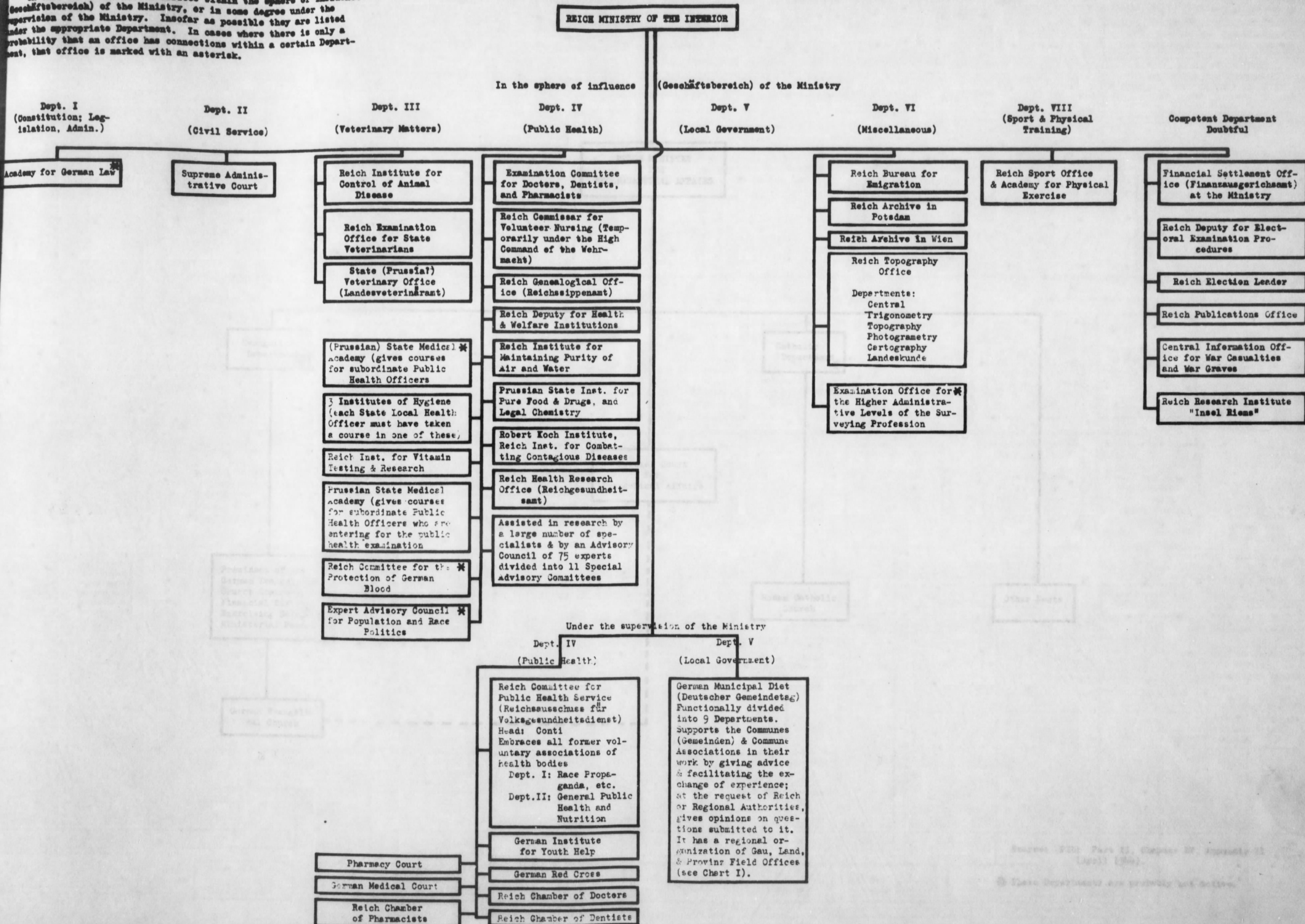
On this chart the Departments of the Ministry are shown in detail, together with regional organizations controlled through these departments. All the remaining offices within the sphere of influence (Geschäftsbereich) of the Ministry, or under the supervision of the Ministry, are not shown here, but on Chart II. Two offices (German Municipal Diet and Supreme Administrative Court) are shown also on Chart I because of their pertinence to the regional structure here depicted.

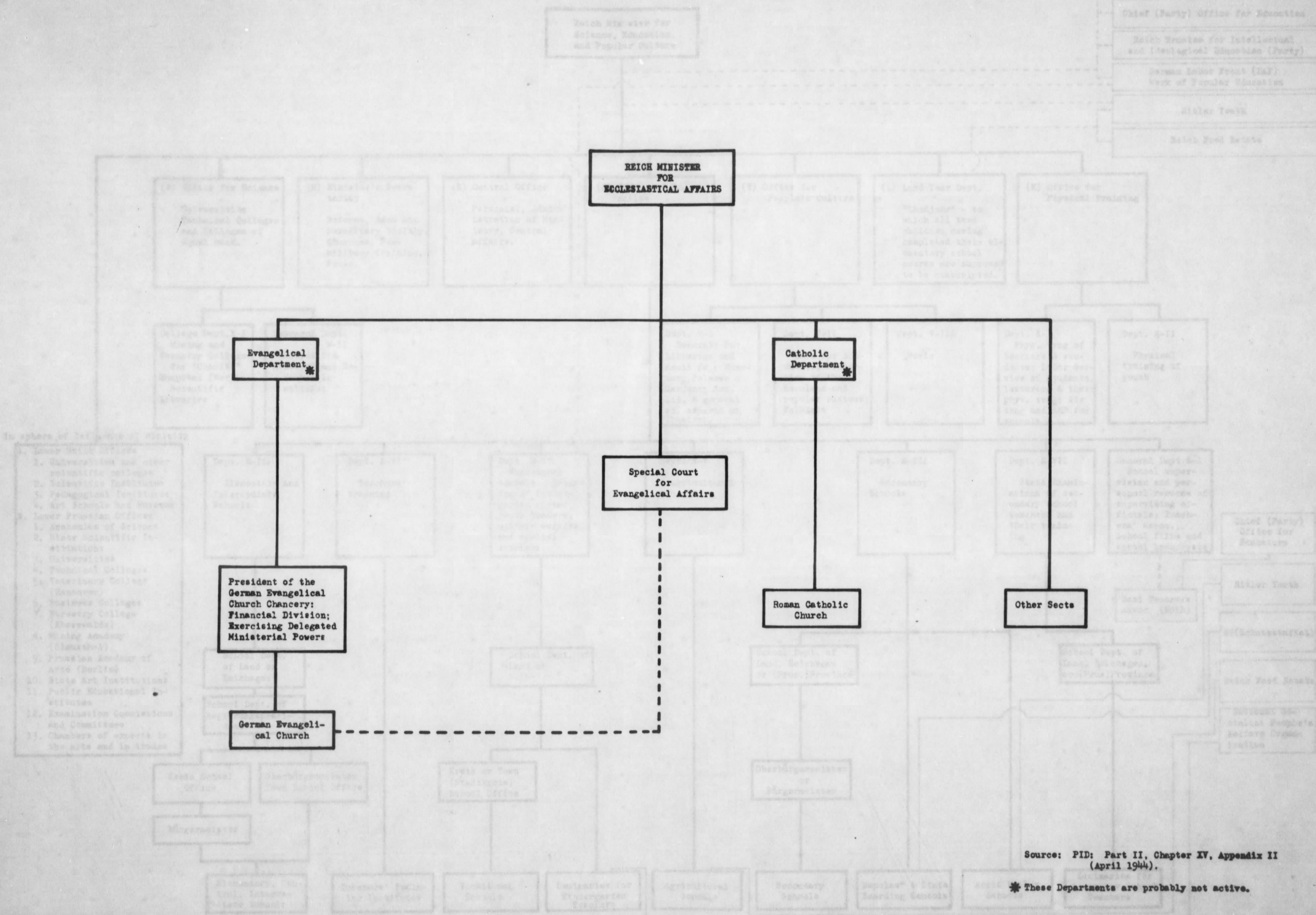


* Regierungspräsident in Prussia, Bavaria, etc.; Reichsstatthalter in Hesse, Lippe, Hamburg, etc. For identity of Landespolizeibehörde elsewhere see P.I.D., page 126.

* This Department was formerly in charge of Police Matters.

On this chart are listed offices within the sphere of influence (Geschäftsbereich) of the Ministry, or in some degree under the supervision of the Ministry. Insofar as possible they are listed under the appropriate Department. In cases where there is only a probability that an office has connections within a certain Department, that office is marked with an asterisk.

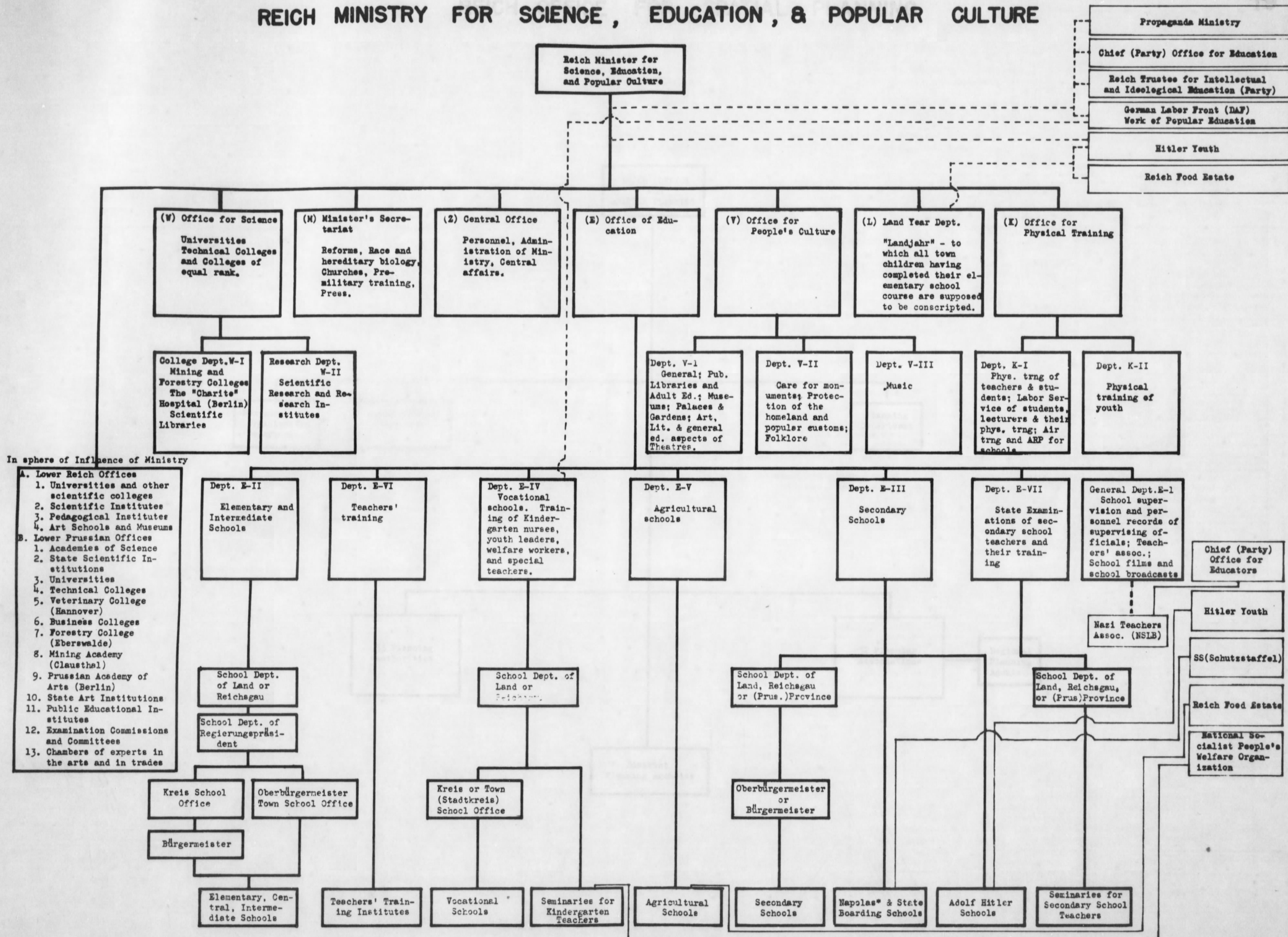




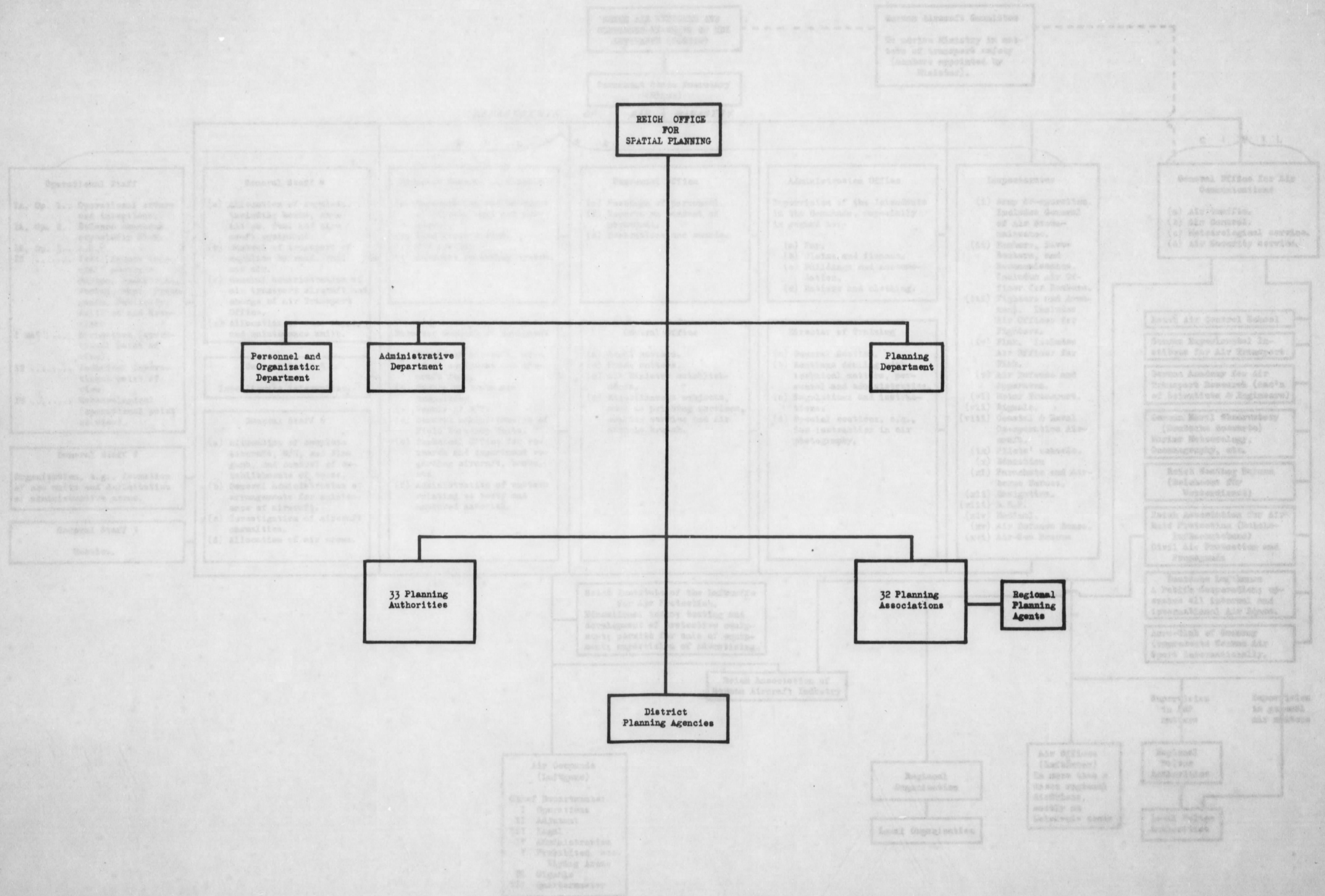
Source: PID: Part II, Chapter XV, Appendix II (April 1944).

* These Departments are probably not active.

REICH MINISTRY FOR SCIENCE, EDUCATION, & POPULAR CULTURE



REVENUE AIR MINISTRY



REICH AIR MINISTRY

(HIGHEST ADMINISTRATIVE AUTHORITY FOR CIVIL AVIATION AND HIGH COMMAND OF THE LUFTWAFFE)

20

